

THE Nonconformist.

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VOL. XIX.—NEW SERIES, No. 694.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 16, 1859.

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The Special Sunday Evening Services will be continued as usual.

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The Fourteenth ANNUAL MEETING will be held (D.V.) in EXETER HALL, on TUESDAY EVENING, February 22, 1859. The Right Hon. the Earl of SHAFTESBURY will preside.
Rev. Samuel Minton, M.A., Minister of Percy Chapel; Samuel Morley, Esq., Rev. William Laudels, Minister of Diorama Chapel, Regent's-park; Edward Corderoy, Esq., and Rev. William Morley Punshon, will address the meeting.
The Doors will be opened at Seven, and the Meeting will commence at half-past Seven o'clock.
Tickets may be had of Messrs. Nisbet and Co., 21, Berners-street, Oxford-street; Bull, Hutton, and Co., 19, Holles-street, Cavendish-square; Dalton, Cockspur-street; Westerton, Knights-bridge; Cotes' Library, 139, Cheapside; W. Hall and Co., 10, Cambridge-terrace, Camden New Town; Starling, St. Upper-street, Islington; Pentress and Son, 67, Newington Causeway; Tweedie, 337, Strand; Book Society, 19, Paternoster-row; and at the Offices of the Society, 163, Aldersgate-street, City.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

SIR A. ELTON'S RESOLUTIONS.

WE are very much afraid we shall bore our readers on the subject of Church-rates. We are as anxious as they can be to have done with the question—but we cannot always have our own way. The Session has already opened, and we have already some half-dozen notices on the books of the House of Commons—one of them pointing to a Government Bill to be introduced by Mr. Secretary Walpole on Friday next. We could have been well content to adjourn further consideration of the matter until after that measure has made its appearance, but that on the Tuesday following, but two evenings preceding the day fixed by Sir John Trelawny for the second reading of his Abolition bill, Sir Arthur Elton has given notice of his intention to submit a series of resolutions which, however good in themselves, threaten, by means of their mistimed presentation, to confuse, and, possibly, to damage, our plan of proceedings. We feel it, therefore, to be necessary to state, with the utmost explicitness and candour, the view which we take of these resolutions, and of the policy of thrusting the consideration of them upon the House of Commons a few hours prior to the second reading of Sir John Trelawny's bill.

To the substance [of the first of Sir Arthur Elton's resolutions] no objection can possibly be made by the staunchest abolitionist. It is as follows:—"That this House, considering that Church-rates are productive of frequent strife and litigation, and have ceased to be levied in an increasing number of parishes, deems it advisable that they should be wholly discontinued, except for payment of existing charges thereon, and that the maintenance of the fabric of the church should be confided to the zeal and liberality of the clergy and laity." This resolution is a simple affirmation of the principle which Sir John Trelawny's bill embodies. It goes, in fact, the whole length of that bill, and, as a declaratory resolution, could not well be more satisfactory. But then, why resort to a barren resolution to express that which is more practically expressed in the enacting clauses of the measure already before the House? Why return to a preliminary form wholly unnecessary, in this instance, to collect the opinions of our representatives? The bill of the hon. baronet, the member for Tavistock, was last Session carried through all its stages in the Lower House of Parliament, by large and increasing majorities. It has again been introduced, and the motion for its second reading will be made on Thursday se'nnight. Why embarrass members in the discharge of their duties, by calling upon them to affirm on the Tuesday, in the shape of a resolution, what they are prepared to affirm on Thursday, as the principle of an enacting measure? It seems only too likely to effect a division of our force—and that, too, for no object, because the passing of the resolution as it stands will not, under existing circumstances, strengthen the support of the bill.

We are driven to look for the drift of Sir Arthur Elton's movement, not in his first resolu-

tion, but in the succeeding ones. What are they? The second in the series runs thus—"That in order to afford every facility for the free exercise of that zeal and liberality, it is expedient that in every parish the incumbent and churchwardens should form a corporation with power to take, hold, and manage, all property given or appropriated for purposes relating to the parish church, and to administer the income thence arising." Now, we have, from the first, shown ourselves favourable to the creation of a legal machinery for the application of funds voluntarily subscribed in lieu of those derived at present from Church-rates. We are not at all sure that the particular form of machinery constructed for this purpose by Sir A. Elton, is the best that could be devised—but this is a matter for the consideration of churchmen rather than dissenters. The fact that the former are in the occupation of national buildings *does*, unquestionably, place them under legal disadvantages in the application of moneys voluntarily contributed for the repair of parish churches—disadvantages which are not felt by Dissenting communities. We have never desired to withhold the requisite facilities for ensuring the easy and unimpeded operation of the voluntary principle for the repair of parochial edifices, and the defrayal of the expenses incident to divine worship therein. It is not for us, indeed, to devise the means by which this relief may be obtained—it is sufficient that we are willing to accept any well devised and *bond fide* proposal to this end, provided it be consistent with the principle of entire abolition. It is not, therefore, to the object of this second resolution, nor to the particular machinery for attaining it which the resolution points out, that we demur. But why not attempt to secure that object by proposing the necessary clauses in committee on Sir John Trelawny's bill? If they are properly worded, we see no reason for doubting that they would be ungrudgingly assented to. Of course, the hon. member for Bath is prepared to give practical shape to his own idea—and long before the Bill goes into Committee, could put on the notice-book the clauses he would deem it necessary to add with a view to make the measure more conformable to his notion of what it should be.

The third resolution is a necessary sequent of the second—"That the authority of the present vestry in every parish with reference to the parish church shall be transferred to a new vestry to be termed 'the Church vestry,' to consist of the incumbent and churchwardens, and those parishioners, forming part of the congregation of the parish church, who give not less than a fixed yearly sum to its funds, the present vestry retaining its authority in secular affairs." This is but a reproduction in the shape of a declaratory resolution, of a provision which, in one of Sir William Clay's earlier bills, was elaborately set forth in distinct clauses. We cannot, therefore, object to the substance of it—nor to that of the fourth and last resolution, "That the churchwardens should be chosen exclusively from the members of the church vestry, and their purely secular duties be performed by the overseers." To all this, the promoters of Sir John Trelawny's Bill have heretofore given their assent. The idea is not a new one. The reception it will meet with from Dissenters is not a matter of uncertainty. There would seem, therefore, to be no necessity for these resolutions—more especially in anticipation of the second reading of the Abolition Bill. All that is here proposed, can be much better proposed, either as clauses in Sir John Trelawny's Bill, or in a separate measure to proceed *pari passu* with it. On the whole, perhaps, it would be preferable to keep the two objects distinct, by preparing a separate Bill for each. Let simple abolition of the rates be the principle of the one—let the construction of machinery for the application of voluntary subscriptions be the object of the other—but, assuredly the last should follow, not precede, the first.

The hon. member for Bath must have learned

before now, how difficult it is for a private member to drive even a short Bill of one or two clauses through the House of Commons, in the teeth of an opposing Government. He must know how seriously the chances of defeat of such a measure are multiplied by adding largely to the number of its clauses. We have no doubt he means to assist in the final and satisfactory settlement of this protracted controversy. We admit that his proposals are substantially fair. We trust, therefore, that he will not persist in urging them at a time, and in a shape, which might greatly endanger the very cause he is seeking to promote. It is of the utmost importance just at the present juncture to avoid disturbing the attention of our forces from the main end we all have in view. He will not be acting a friendly part if, whatever be his intentions, he divides the strength which is now compact and irresistible. In Parliamentary tactics, we must give and take. We are ready to give him all that he wants, but we claim to take a more convenient time for doing so. We have no doubt he will be open to reason—and we are confident that the more accommodating he shall be in regard to time, mode, and tactics, the more certainly he may count upon achieving the substance of the results he has at heart.

THE CHURCH-RATE QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.

Sir John Trelawny's Church-rate Abolition Bill stands for second reading for Wednesday, Feb. 23rd. It is backed also by Mr. Dillwyn and General Thompson. It is the intention of Mr. Griffith, on the second reading of the bill, to move, as an amendment, the following resolution:—

That any amendment of the law relating to Church-rates which should exempt Dissenters from all payment on that score, at the same time that the old-established machinery for the support of the Church of England is continued in operation upon the members of her own communion, is unworthy of the consideration of this House.

On the preceding Friday (the 18th) Mr. Walpole will, on the part of the Government, explain the provisions of the proposed Government measure on Church-rates.

Sir Arthur Elton has put down his resolutions on Church-rates for consideration on Tuesday, the 22nd, the day before Sir J. Trelawny's bill comes on. It is, however, not unlikely that the hon. member for Bath may see the propriety of postponing them till the Church-rate Abolition Bill is read a second time, when it would be in his power to press his resolutions as amendments in committee. In their amended form these resolutions are as follows:—

1. That this House, considering that Church-rates are productive of frequent strife and litigation, and have ceased to be levied in an increasing number of parishes, deems it advisable that they should be wholly discontinued except for payment of existing charges thereon, and that the maintenance of the fabric of the church should be confided to the zeal and liberality of the clergy and laity.
2. That, in order to afford every facility for the free exercise of that zeal and liberality, it is expedient that in every parish the incumbent and churchwardens should form a corporation with power to take, hold, and manage all property given or appropriated for purposes relating to the parish church, and to administer the income thence arising.
3. That the authority of the present vestry in every parish with reference to the parish church shall be transferred to a new vestry to be termed "the Church Vestry," to consist of the incumbent and churchwardens, and those parishioners, forming part of the congregation of the parish church, who give not less than a fixed yearly sum to its funds, the present vestry retaining its authority in secular affairs.
4. That the churchwardens should be chosen exclusively from the members of the church vestry, and their purely secular duties be performed by the overseers.

Mr. Alcock's bill for the "voluntary commutation of Church-rates" has been brought in and read a first time. It makes provision for the securing to the Charity Commissioners of a yearly sum sufficient for the payment of expenses properly payable out of Church-rates, which being done, Church-rates will cease to be levied. The funds are supposed to accrue from rent-charges to be granted by corporations, and

by tenants-in-tail, or for life; all such rent-charges being absolutely binding. The bill will not touch the famous Mortmain Act (9 George II. cap. 36). The Charity Commissioners will award and administer the funds thus provided. It will be seen that by this bill the abolition of Church-rates in a parish is dependent on the proposed substitute being found by landed proprietors of their own free will!

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS BILL.

The bill of Mr. Dillwyn and Mr. Massey enacts that no endowed school or educational charity shall be deemed to belong to any religious communion or sect, or be used for the teaching of any particular religious doctrine, unless the founder shall have expressly declared that such is his wish. Persons of all religious persuasions, properly qualified, will be deemed eligible as governors, masters, or scholars of open schools. The bill comes on for second reading to-morrow (Thursday) evening.

In the House of Commons on Friday petitions were presented, by Mr. Kinglake from the congregation of the Baptist Chapel, Bridgewater, praying that Dissenters may be relieved from the injustice of being regarded as ineligible to trusteeships of endowed schools in those cases where no adherence to a particular form of worship is prescribed by the founder; also a petition to the same effect from the congregation of the Baptist Chapel, Bridgewater; by Mr. W. Martin, from the congregation of East-street Chapel, Maidstone; by Sir J. Trelawny, from the Protestant Dissenters assembling in the General Baptist Chapel, and in the Unitarian Chapel, at Moretonhampstead, Devonshire; and by Mr. Hadfield, from the minister and congregation of the Baptist Chapel, Cowling-hill, near Skipton.

On Monday petitions to a similar effect were presented by Colonel Coke, from the ministers, managers, and congregation of the Unitarian and Baptist chapels at Diss; also from the inhabitants of Diss; and by Mr. Baines, from the congregation of Mill-hill Chapel, Leeds.

In the Lords on Monday petitions with the same prayer were presented by Lord Cranworth, from the congregation of Wesleyans at Northallerton; by the Earl of Carlisle, from inhabitants of Leeds, in public meeting assembled; from the congregation of Mill-street Chapel, Leeds; from Protestant Dissenters of Sheffield, Bridgewater, Bury (Lancashire), the City of Manchester, Collumpton (Devonshire), a place in Montgomeryshire, Bury St. Edmund's (Suffolk), Petersfield, Uttoxeter, Southampton, and Boston (Lincolnshire); by the Earl of Shaftesbury, from the parish of Chisbury; and by Lord Brougham, from a congregation of Dissenters in Manchester, signed by, among others, members of the corporation.

THE COMPULSORY AND VOLUNTARY SYSTEMS IN THE NORTH.

(From the *Newcastle Guardian*.)

We have always contended that Church-rates are not essential to the diffusion of religion, nor even to the proper maintenance of edifices in which worship is celebrated; and seeing that they are a fruitful source of discord and dissension, bitterness and strife in towns and families, we have urged their entire and immediate abolition. A return lately presented to Government from the archdeacons of Northumberland, Lindisfarne, and Durham conclusively proves that the churches may be kept in good condition without rates and wholly by private subscription. But it establishes a further fact, which in some circles may excite surprise: it shows that where there are no rates, the fabrics are best maintained. This is the rule—there are exceptions, but the statistics make good this conclusion. We cite a few examples. In Newcastle the condition of the churches of St. Andrew and St. John is described as good, that of St. Ann as fair, and St. Peter very good; and here no rates have been collected for many years. At Tynemouth, where 2,059*l.* has been extracted from a reluctant population during the last seven years, and where the parish has been kept in a continual state of agitation and ill-blood in consequence, the fabric is in a deplorable state and under repair.

At Alnwick, under the shadow of the castle of the Percys, where the incumbent reposes upon rates (rather a thorny pillow), and does not condescend to ask his flock for help, the condition of the church is "not good"—an expressive but not very euphonious negative. In Berwick the episcopal communicants contributed at the rate of six or seven hundred a year, and do not demand the pelf of other sections of the church, and there the fabrics are well upheld. St. Andrew Auckland, on the contrary, constantly letting blood from Dissenters and Catholics, needs repairs; so does the church at Darlington, which draws silver and gold for its support from Quaker tills. Chester-le-Street, with 1,050*l.* in seven years, is only tolerable; but Gateshead, without rates, is good.

Such facts and figures as these are instructive. They demonstrate that wherever the clergy and churchwardens cast their cause upon popular support, the needful pecuniary help will not be with-

held; and faint-hearted Christians, who inaccurately read or imperfectly understand the great charter of their faith, should hence derive encouragement to rely altogether upon voluntary contributions—not to seek compulsory exactions—for the propagation of their creed and the performance of their ritual services. The sword of the Spirit, not the sword of the magistrate, is the weapon which the soldiers of the Cross should wield, and by this they will conquer.

The return to which we have referred evinces how necessary it is that this lesson should be learnt. There are only twelve parishes in which Churchmen solely depend upon private subscriptions or public collections—in all the rest they either supplement these by rates, or support the parochial churches entirely from this source. The Ministers, in obtaining this return, contemplate a measure of their own on the subject of Church-rates. We presume it will be what is called "a compromise;" and objecting as we do, on principle, to anything short of entire abolition, it is satisfactory to find from evidence which comes stamped with official authority, and from the dignitaries of the Church itself, that ecclesiastical edifices may be safely left to the conservative leanings and benevolent impulses of the people generally.

MEETING OF CONVOCATION.

On Wednesday the members of both Houses, composing the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury, assembled, by prorogation, at the Jerusalem Chamber, near Westminster Abbey, for the consideration of urgent business in connexion with the Church.

In the Upper House the Bishop of Llandaff presented a petition from the clergy of the Archdeaconry of Ely, in the diocese of Ely, against the abolition of Church-rates, and praying their lordships to adopt such constitutional means as was in their power to prevent such a spoliation of the revenues of the church. The petition was ordered to lie on the table.

In the Lower House on Wednesday the Rev. Canon SELWYN moved that the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the nature and operation of the provisions of an Act of the 20th and 21st of Victoria, entitled "The Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act," be read. The report was read accordingly, which concluded with these words:—

The committee are of opinion that since the Act of the 20th and 21st of Victoria was passed, it has materially changed the law of the church, making it press hardly upon the clergy, and ought, therefore, to be amended. The committee, while fully recognising the power of Parliament to legislate for all classes of men in the community, is nevertheless of opinion, when changes are proposed affecting the ritual of the church and the duties of the clergy, that the advice of the clergy should be taken upon it.

The Rev. Canon SELWYN moved that the report be adopted by the House and turned into a resolution and that the Prolocutor take it to the Upper House on their lordships again assembling together. Archdeacon DENISON said instead of saying that the Act of Victoria had materially changed the law of the church, he moved that these words should be substituted:—

That the Act is felt by a very large body of the clergy to have placed the law of the church at variance with the law of the State.

The amendment having been seconded, Archdeacon RANDALL thought of opinion that it was the duty of Parliament to consult the clergy before making any alteration in the doctrines of the church, could not agree that Parliament had not the power to make what alteration it pleased in any law, whether civil or ecclesiastical. The legislative power of Parliament could not be disputed. The Rev. F. C. MASSINGBERD was of opinion that Parliament had not a right to alter the law of the church without the assent of the church. It had never been conceded that that should be the doctrine of the Church of England which the two Houses of Parliament, apart from the spirituality, chose to say was so. The DEAN OF ELY said that, although the parties to a divorce might afterwards marry again, yet it was at the option of the clergyman whether he would or not celebrate such marriage. Again, he did not precisely see how the clergy could be consulted upon matters of this kind, because, although the Convocation professed to be the representatives of the Church of England, the question involved concerned the interests of the whole nation, and not merely of the members of the Church of England. Archdeacon DENISON observed that this had been called a clergyman's grievance, but he would ask whether anything had more seriously affected the morals of the people of England than this divorce law. During the fourteen months it had been in operation it had done more to sap the morals of the people than anything within his recollection. On a division the amendment was rejected by 33 to 28. The original motion was adopted on the proposition of the Rev. Canon Selwyn.

In the Upper House on Thursday no business was transacted.

In the Lower House the Rev. Canon WORDSWORTH presented a petition from what he said was called the Tithe Redemption Trust, of which Lord John Manners, the Chief Commissioner of Works, was president. Their statement was that there were at present no less than 4,000 parishes in England and Wales in which tithes were applied to other purposes than that of the maintenance of the Christian ministry. These charges amounted to upwards of a million and a half sterling, and in a great number of the parishes no efficient means were provided for the maintenance of the Christian ministry. The Rev. Dr. JELF brought up the standing orders of the Lower House, which had been agreed to

by a committee appointed for that purpose. In the course of his remarks he said that the Church had been in a state of torpor for upwards of a hundred years, and when it suddenly woke up to its responsibilities, it was not surprising that there was some confusion. The House afterwards proceeded to consider the report on home and foreign missions. This report urged the importance of a large increase of spiritual agency at home, in the shape of securing such an addition to the clergy as would give one to every thousand souls throughout the country. With regard to missions, they thought that an order of men selected for the ministry with more regard to their moral and religious character, to their intellectual qualifications and their power of influencing others, than to scholastic advantages or acquirements, might be of eminent service in the Church. On the subject of foreign missions, the report recommended that associations to raise funds for their support and extension should be formed in every parish. The report was adopted, after an addition had been made recommending that increased facilities should be given to enable clergymen who had been ordained for missionary work to obtain appointments on their return to this country.

On Friday the Upper House received petitions, one being from Mr. Hoare, the banker, in favour of the revival of Convocation. The Bishop of Oxford moved an address to the Throne, praying for the appointment of a Commission of Divines to draw up forms of services, upon special occasions, such as the sovereign's accession and the close of harvest. The House were equally divided on the subject, and the Archbishop of Canterbury gave his casting vote against the motion.

Both Houses were prorogued to the 25th of August.

The Convocation of the Prelates and Clergy of the Province of York met on the 4th, and, as usual, was instantly prorogued until August next. The Reverend Mr. DODD vainly endeavoured to obtain a hearing for a petition from Mr. Hoare, the London banker. The Honourable and Reverend FREDERICK GREY insisted upon reading a petition from a large body of the clergy praying that the powers of the Convocation might no longer be kept in abeyance. Mr. Grey also protested against the prorogation as illegal and unconstitutional.

From the Chapter House the dissidents repaired to the Black Swan, where Archdeacon Thorp was called to the chair; and after the lapse of an hour, it was resolved to admit the press. The Rev. T. Collins, of Farnham, Knaresborough, was now chosen to preside; and Mr. Hoare, his petition finding favour here, spoke upon its contents at some length. It proceeded, as he showed, from a Society for the Revival of Convocation, and represented the views of many hundreds of his brother-laymen, including members of the Wesleyan community. Mr. W. WALKER, of Bradford, (who was the only other layman present besides Mr. Hoare) said that he could not understand why, when both the clergy and laity of the Church of England were in earnest to promote true religion, they should not be allowed to possess the privileges and advantages of meeting in Convocation. And so the conference went on.

THE REV. THOMAS BINNEY AND THE BISHOP OF ADELAIDE.

The last Australian mail brings a fresh batch of correspondence, which is given in *extenso* in the *South Australian Advertiser*, on the subject of the proposed fraternisation of the Evangelical Protestant denominations in that colony.

In a letter, dated Nov. 19, the bishop, in reply to the memorialists who suggested that Mr. Binney should be invited to occupy one of the Episcopal pulpits in that city, comes to the conclusion that "obstacles in the way of giving effect to the principle involved in such an invitation are, in my opinion, little likely, under the present circumstances and views entertained in the various sections of the Protestant Church to be overcome."

Sir Richard MacDonnell, in giving his consent to the publication of his letters, says:—

I still hope that the members of our Church generally will ere long be more alive to the absolute and ever increasing necessity of giving the Church a greater freedom of action and alliance; a greater and wider choice of means to reach the hearts and sympathies of her Protestant Evangelical brethren beyond her pale—between whom and herself there is no wider distinction now existing than that created by the different degrees of freedom of action enjoyed by each.

I also trust that the discussion will no longer be hampered and obscured by comparatively petty misunderstandings and trivial explanations, but that the important question we have raised will not be lost sight of, viz., how best to manifest affection for our Church by giving her that freedom of action, even though purchased by the sacrifice of a fetter imposed by a venerable tradition.

These views are greatly expanded in another letter from Governor MacDonnell to the bishop himself, in which he assumes that the "Union scheme," so far as the bishop is concerned, is adjourned *sine die*. Nevertheless, says his Excellency:—

There are those here, who, whilst they will not make a sacrifice which they believe to be needless, and which is certainly repugnant to their feelings, cannot afford time to await the realisation of such a gorgeous dream as that of a general conformity and a future common Church. They believe such schemes to be impracticable for the next century, though alliance might be possible in a few years. They are, therefore,

resolved to lose no opportunity of freeing the Church of their best and holiest sympathies from all fetters that impede its free religious action in alliance with other ministers and brethren of the pure evangelical Protestant faith. In that freedom—of which an occasional interchange of pulpits would have been a symbol—they see the fairest prospect of the Anglican Church, proving by her future progress that although unaided by the State, she can keep pace with the efforts and extension of kindred Protestant Churches.

Our Adelaide contemporary also publishes the protest of some 164 members of the Church of England to the Bishop, against the invitation "of an unordained minister, and of a denomination in separation from the Church" to teach from an Episcopalian pulpit. The memorialist, however, they declare, "abundant reasons why it is not possible for us to consent on the present or on any occasion that our Church should unite, or ally herself, or make any conditions of mutual assistance, with any man or body of men meeting the slightest compromise of principle." The bishop, in his reply, while confessing that his proposal for union may have been somewhat of "a dream," which "cannot be brought about by rudely breaking in upon cherished associations, deep-rooted convictions, or even reverend prejudices," concludes by saying:—

If, by the manifestation of kindly feelings and a just estimate of a really great man, I can in the slightest degree further that object, I do not think I shall have done amiss in writing to Mr. Binney, nor yet have given just ground for imagining that I am willing or able to compromise one single principle or time-honoured characteristic of our Reformed Branch of the Catholic and Apostolic Church.

In reference to this correspondence the *South Australian Advertiser* sensibly remarks:—

It is a novel thing to see the Governor of a province entering the list against the Lord Bishop in the character of religious reformer. Yet we see no reason why such should not be the case. There is no State Church in this colony, therefore Sir Richard MacDonnell, though the representative of the Queen in political matters, is not her representative in Ecclesiastical matters, and is, consequently, left quite free to act for himself. Whether this action is that of a private gentleman or of an official personage, we care not to inquire. We must hold to the opinion that Sir Richard MacDonnell is worthy of all praise for breaking the bonds of red tape wherewith the ancient rule of routine would have bound him. No doubt in thus coming down from the throne of high officialism to mix in the ordinary conflict of public life, his Excellency's actions will be more open to public comment than if he had continued to sit aloof in mute magnificence, neither showing his own opinion nor combating the opinions of others. And there may still be some who would like such a King Log to rule over them. But unless we much mistake the views of our fellow-colonists, they will admire the open-hearted, honest, manly manner in which his Excellency, scorning assumed superiority, is willing, whilst he lives amongst the people, to be one of the people—*primus inter pares*—to take part in their struggles, to share in their conflicts, and to reap the reward which every public man must look forward to, namely, the cordial approbation of friends, and the free but not ungenerous strictures of opponents.

Mr. Binney once more enters the lists with a long letter to the bishop, dated "Sandhurst, Bendigo, Nov. 29." He points out how, while his lordship is submitting a plan for the union of Evangelical Churches, he is intrenched in a position which completely interposes a preliminary obstacle to approach, conference, union, confraternity, and everything of the sort.

Disguise the matter as we may—lose sight of it as we often do—amid the courtesies of private life, from personal regard, in social intercourse, or on the platform of religious or philanthropic societies—hide it from ourselves, keep silent about it, do what we like to cover or conceal it, the fact is, and it is better at once honestly to look at it, that the Episcopalian clergyman cannot recognise the "orders" of the ministers of other Evangelical Churches—he cannot regard the men as ministers of Christ in the full and proper meaning of the words—he cannot admit their official standing or recognise their official acts. He may respect them as men, love them as Christian men, admire and esteem them as earnest and eloquent advocates of the truth; but to him they are not ministers—they have not been Episcopally ordained, and are therefore not ordained at all; their sacramental acts are invalid; their preaching is without authority,—properly speaking, indeed, they cannot "preach," though they may "give a word of exhortation;" whatever they may be thought by themselves or others, the ministers of non-Episcopal churches are, in the view of the Anglican clergy, laymen and nothing else. All this necessarily follows from the "tradition of eighteen centuries," when, as in the case of your lordship, a man has no doubt of its being an "apostolic" tradition, and of "inspired authority." The gist of the whole thing lies here. This principle touches and colours all thought—it interposes a bar to all action. Every scheme, plan, proposal for union or co-operation, will be wrecked upon this rock, shattered to atoms by the breakers which play around the position your lordship occupies, and from which you look out with such a calm consciousness of perfect security, or, to take your lordship's own figure, you stand on one side of the "gap" or gulf, and all Non-Episcopal Churches and ministers on the other; and that gulf, guarded, watched over, kept open by the Divine powers that reside in the words "apostolic," "inspired," and such like, how in the world is it ever to be bridged by mortal man? It never can be; nor will it ever close to admit the separated parties to come together, till there shall be thrown into it, sent down to the bottom and buried there, a goodly number of the "customs" and "traditions" of past ages. Though I speak thus, I am by no means insensible to the good that there may be in traditions and customs; I am not ignorant, either, how far some churches may surpass others as to the degree in which they approach the customs and order of apostolic times; I am not indifferent to the questions and consequences involved in or flowing from this; but sure I am, that, with the mere hints and germs of things, which we have in the New Testament; with the uncertainty which

belongs to the first age, the evidence of Jerome and the arguments of Chillingworth notwithstanding; with the fact facing us that your orders are as invalid as mine in the view of that church, which, in one sense, is the Mother of us all; on these and other grounds that might be mentioned—I feel that it is not wise for any Protestant Church whatever, either to assert that it is modelled exactly after an apostolic pattern, or to assume for itself, in relation to its ordinations and orders, such an exclusive validity as, in effect to unminister all other Protestant ministers. But to this, my lord, your tradition leads,—a tradition with you, "apostolic" as to its age, and of "inspired authority" as to its character and source. Consistently with this, it is impossible for you to recognise the ministerial acts, standing, or office of the clergy of the Non-Episcopal "Evangelical Churches;" and so long as that is the case, you can never co-operate with them, or they with you, on equal terms.

Mr. Binney says in conclusion,—
Your lordship, I am persuaded, acts conscientiously in going by "the old church clock;" you will, I am sure, accord to me like credit in treating all clocks as pieces of man's workmanship,—using them where I think they may be used with safety; but as none of them are of any worth except as they are in harmony with the shadow on the dial, preferring rather to go by that; testing and trying by it, as far as I can, whatever sounds from either Church or Conventicle. May we all do this honestly and earnestly, with humility and prayer, and be guided in doing it, that "in God's light we may see light!"

Mr. Binney hopes to reach England by the Overland route, at the end of July or the beginning of August next.

EDUCATIONAL TESTS IN SCOTLAND.—A public meeting was held at Edinburgh on Monday week, when resolutions were passed to the effect that strenuous exertions be made during the present session in Parliament to obtain the abolition of the test imposed upon the teachers of the parochial schools of Scotland binding them to conformity with the established Presbyterian Church. The meeting was presided over by the Lord Provost, and was addressed by Mr. Moncreiff, M.P., Mr. Black, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Candlish, and other clergymen and gentlemen. It was stated that the object of the present agitation, instead of being directed to the introduction of a general measure, in which respect the legislative efforts of Mr. Moncreiff and others had hitherto been unsuccessful, should be limited to the simple question of the ecclesiastical test, it being anticipated that, following the precedent of the University tests which Parliament abolished in 1853, they would first obtain the removal of the test, and afterwards the appointment of an educational commission, on the report of which as to the means of improvement and extension of the parochial system future legislation in the matter might proceed. It was urged that Scotland was nearly unanimous as to the character and substance of the education to be given, and that, with the parochial schools opened up to all denominations, with intermediate grammar schools established, and the Universities improved, a system of education might be instituted adequate to the wants of that country, and suited to the educational requirements of the age.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY IN SCOTLAND.—A meeting of the members and friends of the Liberation Society was held on the evening of Thursday, the 10th inst., in the Independent Chapel, Dalkeith—Alexander Mitchell, Esq., in the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer, by the Rev. A. T. Gowan. Mr. Oulton gave a very clear and interesting statement of the operations of the society, referring in detail to the various measures that had engaged their attention during the past year, showing the importance to the interests of religious freedom of such an organisation; and the success that had attended their efforts during the past five years, and the encouragement to increased effort in the prosecution of their work. The Rev. J. Rennie moved that this meeting feels called on to express their entire confidence in the operations of the society during the past year, and earnestly to solicit for it the liberal support of the friends of religious freedom. This was seconded by Mr. R. Somerville. The Rev. Dr. Brown moved, that this meeting have observed with satisfaction the recognition of the principle of religious liberty in the measures lately adopted for the future Government of India, and earnestly hope that some principle will ere long be recognised and applied throughout the whole British empire; which was seconded by Mr. Jordan. The Rev. D. Macintosh moved that the thanks of this meeting are due to Mr. Oulton for his able and interesting address; and Mr. J. Blair seconded it. With the adoption of a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting was closed.

PRO-CHURCH-RATE CELEBRATION AT CREWE.—A few weeks ago the Church-rate party, to celebrate their victory (?) gave a free dinner to all their voters, after which some remarkably choice speeches were delivered, and very elegant songs sung. Amongst others, one of the churchwardens displayed his vocal powers in that pathetic ballad "Oh Susanna don't you cry for me." A controversy, arising out of the late contest, is being carried on in the pages of the *Chester Record*, in which the Dissenters are certainly victorious. One correspondent, speaking of the dinner, said—"The twenty-five or thirty

gentlemen who formed the Church-rate committee can make a boast and a virtue of giving a dinner to all their voters, and yet are so mean as to endeavour to force Dissenters to pay a portion of so paltry a sum as that raised by a half-penny rate. If they loved their Church as much as they would fain make us believe, and wished to live in 'brotherly love,' of which some of them talk very loudly, why not have expended the value of the dinner in defraying their church expenses, which would have been much more creditable, and would have freed them from the reproach of sustaining their religion by compulsory payments." Another characterised the dinner as a device, "to smooth the ruffled consciences of those who voted for the rate, and to keep alive their very conscientious principles until the arrival of another polling day."—From a Correspondent.

CHURCH-RATES IN CHERTSKY, SURREY.—Sometime since, three persons were brought up, by summonses before the bench of magistrates, for non-payment of a Church-rate; the grounds on which it was resisted were that it was excessive, unequal in its assessment, and was made against a majority, or that a majority was illegally obtained. The parties summoned were defended by Mr. Bennett, of Ludgate-hill, and after about two hours' discussion the summonses were dismissed—the magistrates deciding that they had no jurisdiction to decide upon the legality of the rate. It is thought that it will be impossible to levy another rate, and an association has been formed to oppose the rate-party should they think proper to carry the matter to a higher court. The churchwardens have issued a notice of vestry to be held on Wednesday next, "to take into consideration the present position of the church-rate, and to determine what further proceedings shall be taken in the matter."

CHURCH-RATE SCHEME OF A CONSERVATIVE CLERGYMAN.—The Rev. John Cox, who for some years has taken a prominent part in the proceedings of the Hinckford (Essex) Agricultural and Conservative Club, has published a bill which he has prepared, with a view to the settlement of the Church-rate question. The bill has twelve clauses, and the rev. gentleman, who is rector of Fairstead, Essex, seems to have devoted a good deal of pains to its compilation. The bill makes a distinction between towns and country parishes, as Mr. Cox proposes that the former shall not come under the operation of his measure unless two-thirds of the landlords having property in them shall resolve to participate in the act. The rev. gentleman further proposes to separate the maintenance of Church fabrics from the other purposes for which a Church-rate can legally be made at present, and provides for the former only by a county rate of 1d. in the pound to be levied on the tenant, who may deduct it on payment of his rent. For ordinary repairs the churchwardens are to obtain an estimate and submit it to some person appointed by the bishop of the diocese, who is to approve the estimate and proposed repairs; the amount to be expended in the ordinary repairs of a church in one year being limited to the sum which would be raised in the parish by a 1d. rate. The surplus is to be applied to the restoration and enlargement of churches. With regard to chancel, a charge is proposed to be levied upon lay rectors.

EPISCOPAL AND CAPITULAR PROPERTY (METROPOLIS).—A return moved for by Mr. Acton Ayrton, M.P. for the Tower Hamlets, gives the total net income of episcopal and capitular property within the metropolis in the year 1857 as follows—viz., in the see of Canterbury, 6,848*l.*; in the see of London, 10,623*l.*; in the deanery and chapter of St. Paul's, 4,885*l.*; in the deanery and chapter of Westminster, 18,176*l.*; and in the deanery and chapter of Canterbury, 4,141*l.*

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN SWEDEN.—The *Lien*, a Protestant journal of Paris, says:—"Sweden has taken a step in the path of liberty and conscience. A Royal decree confirms a law of the Diet repealing the law of 1726, by which the members of the Lutheran Church were interdicted from attending any religious meeting except those in the official places of worship. We enregister this act with joy. Unfortunately, however, we have received information of a new case of intolerance. The chapter of the cathedral of Wisla has commenced the prosecution of a carriage-maker, named Rechnitrer, who had joined the Baptists, and laboured to make converts to his new faith."

INTERMEDIATE EDUCATION IN IRELAND.—Some attempts have lately been made in Ireland to establish an intermediate system of education, to be based, like the colleges and the national schools, on State grants; and on Saturday a public meeting with this object was held at Cork. The Bishop of Cork was one of its principal promoters, and Lord Fermoy occupied the chair; but it was a complete failure. The noble chairman, who has always been a zealous promoter of education, was rudely denied a quiet hearing by the priests and their adherents. When the concurrence of opposite parties in the common schools was appealed to as an argument in favour of the new plan, the Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that the national system was only harmless in the south of Ireland because it was "completely under the control" of the Roman Catholic priests; while another priest, the Rev. Mr. Barlow, denounced the Irish Protestants as "aliens," who should not be suffered to have any control in educational matters; and some congenial spirit in the crowd appeared to give utterance to the feelings of a large number of those present when he denounced the "infernal Protestants," and applied to them another epithet which we will not record. The result of this most uproarious meeting was that the proposition was defeated amidst a storm of groans, hisses, yells, and finally screams of triumph.

by tenants-in-tail, or for life; all such rent-charges being absolutely binding. The bill will not touch the famous Mortmain Act (9 George II. cap. 36). The Charity Commissioners will award and administer the funds thus provided. It will be seen that by this bill the abolition of Church-rates in a parish is dependent on the proposed substitute being found by landed proprietors of their own free will!

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS BILL.

The bill of Mr. Dillwyn and Mr. Massey enacts that no endowed school or educational charity shall be deemed to belong to any religious communion or sect, or be used for the teaching of any particular religious doctrine, unless the founder shall have expressly declared that such is his wish. Persons of all religious persuasions, properly qualified, will be deemed eligible as governors, masters, or scholars of open schools. The bill comes on for second reading to-morrow (Thursday) evening.

In the House of Commons on Friday petitions were presented, by Mr. Kinglake from the congregation of the Baptist Chapel, Bridgewater, praying that Dissenters may be relieved from the injustice of being regarded as ineligible to trusteeships of endowed schools in those cases where no adherence to a particular form of worship is prescribed by the founder; also a petition to the same effect from the congregation of the Baptist Chapel, Bridgewater; by Mr. W. Martin, from the congregation of East-street Chapel, Maidstone; by Sir J. Trelawny, from the Protestant Dissenters assembling in the General Baptist Chapel, and in the Unitarian Chapel, at Moretonhamstead, Devonshire; and by Mr. Hadfield, from the minister and congregation of the Baptist Chapel, Cowling-hill, near Skipton.

On Monday petitions to a similar effect were presented by Colonel Coke, from the ministers, managers, and congregation of the Unitarian and Baptist chapels at Diss; also from the inhabitants of Diss; and by Mr. Baines, from the congregation of Mill-hill Chapel, Leeds.

In the Lords on Monday petitions with the same prayer were presented by Lord Cranworth, from the congregation of Wesleyans at Northallerton; by the Earl of Carlisle, from inhabitants of Leeds, in public meeting assembled; from the congregation of Mill-street Chapel, Leeds; from Protestant Dissenters of Sheffield, Bridgewater, Bury (Lancashire), the City of Manchester, Collumpton (Devonshire), a place in Montgomeryshire, Bury St. Edmund's (Suffolk), Petersfield, Uttoxeter, Southampton, and Boston (Lincolnshire); by the Earl of Shaftesbury, from the parish of Chisbury; and by Lord Brougham, from a congregation of Dissenters in Manchester, signed by, among others, members of the corporation.

THE COMPULSORY AND VOLUNTARY SYSTEMS IN THE NORTH.

(From the *Newcastle Guardian*.)

We have always contended that Church-rates are not essential to the diffusion of religion, nor even to the proper maintenance of edifices in which worship is celebrated; and seeing that they are a fruitful source of discord and dissension, bitterness and strife in towns and families, we have urged their entire and immediate abolition. A return lately presented to Government from the archdeacons of Northumberland, Lindisfarne, and Durham conclusively proves that the churches may be kept in good condition without rates and wholly by private subscription. But it establishes a further fact, which in some circles may excite surprise: it shows that where there are no rates, there the fabrics are best maintained. This is the rule—there are exceptions, but the statistics make good this conclusion. We cite a few examples. In Newcastle the condition of the churches of St. Andrew and St. John is described as good, that of St. Ann as fair, and St. Peter very good; and here no rates have been collected for many years. At Tynemouth, where 2,059*l.* has been extracted from a reluctant population during the last seven years, and where the parish has been kept in a continual state of agitation and ill-blood in consequence, the fabric is in a deplorable state and under repair.

At Alnwick, under the shadow of the castle of the Percys, where the incumbent reposes upon rates (rather a thorny pillow), and does not condescend to ask his flock for help, the condition of the church is "not good"—an expressive but not very euphonious negative. In Berwick the episcopal communicants contributed at the rate of six or seven hundred a year, and do not demand the pelf of other sections of the church, and there the fabrics are well upheld. St. Andrew Auckland, on the contrary, constantly letting blood from Dissenters and Catholics, needs repairs; so does the church at Darlington, which draws silver and gold for its support from Quaker tills. Chester-le-street, with 1,050*l.* in seven years, is only tolerable; but Gateshead, without rates, is good.

Such facts and figures as these are instructive. They demonstrate that wherever the clergy and churchwardens cast their cause upon popular support, the needful pecuniary help will not be with-

held; and faint-hearted Christians, who inaccurately read or imperfectly understand the great charter of their faith, should hence derive encouragement to rely altogether upon voluntary contributions—not to seek compulsory exactions—for the propagation of their creed and the performance of their ritual services. The sword of the Spirit, not the sword of the magistrate, is the weapon which the soldiers of the Cross should wield, and by this they will conquer.

The return to which we have referred evinces how necessary it is that this lesson should be learnt. There are only twelve parishes in which Churchmen solely depend upon private subscriptions or public collections—in all the rest they either supplement these by rates, or support the parochial churches entirely from this source. The Ministers, in obtaining this return, contemplate a measure of their own on the subject of Church-rates. We presume it will be what is called "a compromise;" and objecting as we do, on principle, to anything short of entire abolition, it is satisfactory to find from evidence which comes stamped with official authority, and from the dignitaries of the Church itself, that ecclesiastical edifices may be safely left to the conservative leanings and benevolent impulses of the people generally.

MEETING OF CONVOCATION.

On Wednesday the members of both Houses, composing the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury, assembled, by prorogation, at the Jerusalem Chamber, near Westminster Abbey, for the consideration of urgent business in connexion with the Church.

In the Upper House the Bishop of Llandaff presented a petition from the clergy of the Archdeaconry of Ely, in the diocese of Ely, against the abolition of Church-rates, and praying their lordships to adopt such constitutional means as was in their power to prevent such a spoliation of the revenues of the church. The petition was ordered to lie on the table.

In the Lower House on Wednesday the Rev. Canon SELWYN moved that the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the nature and operation of the provisions of an Act of the 20th and 21st of Victoria, entitled "The Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act," be read. The report was read accordingly, which concluded with these words:—

The committee are of opinion that since the Act of the 20th and 21st of Victoria was passed, it has materially changed the law of the church, making it press hardly upon the clergy, and ought, therefore, to be amended. The committee, while fully recognising the power of Parliament to legislate for all classes of men in the community, is nevertheless of opinion, when changes are proposed affecting the ritual of the church and the duties of the clergy, that the advice of the clergy should be taken upon it.

The Rev. Canon SELWYN moved that the report be adopted by the House and turned into a resolution and that the Prolocutor take it to the Upper House on their lordships again assembling together. Archdeacon DENISON said instead of saying that the Act of Victoria had materially changed the law of the church, he moved that these words should be substituted:—

That the Act is felt by a very large body of the clergy to have placed the law of the church at variance with the law of the State.

The amendment having been seconded, Archdeacon RANDALL though of opinion that it was the duty of Parliament to consult the clergy before making any alteration in the doctrines of the church, could not agree that Parliament had not the power to make what alteration it pleased in any law, whether civil or ecclesiastical. The legislative power of Parliament could not be disputed. The Rev. F. C. MASSINGBEIRD was of opinion that Parliament had not a right to alter the law of the church without the assent of the church. It had never been conceded that that should be the doctrine of the Church of England which the two Houses of Parliament, apart from the spirituality, chose to say was so. The DEAN of ELY said that, although the parties to a divorce might afterwards marry again, yet it was at the option of the clergyman whether he would or not celebrate such marriage. Again, he did not precisely see how the clergy could be consulted upon matters of this kind, because, although the Convocation professed to be the representatives of the Church of England, the question involved concerned the interests of the whole nation, and not merely of the members of the Church of England. Archdeacon DENISON observed that this had been called a clergyman's grievance, but he would ask whether anything had more seriously affected the morals of the people of England than this divorce law. During the fourteen months it had been in operation it had done more to sap the morals of the people than anything within his recollection. On a division the amendment was rejected by 33 to 28. The original motion was adopted on the proposition of the Rev. Canon Selwyn.

In the Upper House on Thursday no business was transacted.

In the Lower House the Rev. Canon WORDSWORTH presented a petition from what he said was called the Tithe Redemption Trust, of which Lord John Manners, the Chief Commissioner of Works, was president. Their statement was that there were at present no less than 4,000 parishes in England and Wales in which tithes were applied to other purposes than that of the maintenance of the Christian ministry. These charges amounted to upwards of a million and a half sterling, and in a great number of the parishes no efficient means were provided for the maintenance of the Christian ministry. The Rev. Dr. JELF brought up the standing orders of the Lower House, which had been agreed to

by a committee appointed for that purpose. In the course of his remarks he said that the Church had been in a state of torpor for upwards of a hundred years, and when it suddenly woke up to its responsibilities, it was not surprising that there was some confusion. The House afterwards proceeded to consider the report on home and foreign missions. This report urged the importance of a large increase of spiritual agency at home, in the shape of securing such an addition to the clergy as would give one to every thousand souls throughout the country. With regard to deacons, they thought that an order of men selected for the ministry with more regard to their moral and religious character, to their intellectual qualifications and their power of influencing others, than to scholastic advantages or acquirements, might be of eminent service in the Church. On the subject of foreign missions, the report recommended that associations to raise funds for their support and extension should be formed in every parish. The report was adopted, after an addition had been made recommending that increased facilities should be given to enable clergymen who had been ordained for missionary work to obtain appointments on their return to this country.

On Friday the Upper House received petitions, one being from Mr. Hoare, the banker, in favour of the revival of Convocation. The Bishop of Oxford moved an address to the Throne, praying for the appointment of a Commission of Divines to draw up forms of services, upon special occasions, such as the sovereign's accession and the close of harvest. The House were equally divided on the subject, and the Archbishop of Canterbury gave his casting vote against the motion.

Both Houses were prorogued to the 25th of August.

The Convocation of the Prelates and Clergy of the Province of York met on the 4th, and, as usual, was instantly prorogued until August next. The Reverend Mr. Dodd vainly endeavoured to obtain a hearing for a petition from Mr. Hoare, the London banker. The Honourable and Reverend FREDERICK GREY insisted upon reading a petition from a large body of the clergy praying that the powers of the Convocation might no longer be kept in abeyance. Mr. Grey also protested against the prorogation as illegal and unconstitutional.

From the Chapter House the dissidents repaired to the Black Swan, where Archdeacon Thorp was called to the chair; and after the lapse of an hour, it was resolved to admit the press. The Rev. T. Collins, of Farnham, Knaresborough, was now chosen to preside; and Mr. Hoare, his petition finding favour here, spoke upon its contents at some length. It proceeded, as he showed, from a Society for the Revival of Convocation, and represented the views of many hundreds of his brother-laymen, including members of the Wesleyan community. Mr. W. WALKER, of Bradford, (who was the only other layman present besides Mr. Hoare) said that he could not understand why, when both the clergy and laity of the Church of England were in earnest to promote true religion, they should not be allowed to possess the privileges and advantages of meeting in Convocation. And so the conference went on.

THE REV. THOMAS BINNEY AND THE BISHOP OF ADELAIDE.

The last Australian mail brings a fresh batch of correspondence, which is given *in extenso* in the *South Australian Advertiser*, on the subject of the proposed fraternisation of the Evangelical Protestant denominations in that colony.

In a letter, dated Nov. 19, the bishop, in reply to the memorialists who suggested that Mr. Binney should be invited to occupy one of the Episcopal pulpits in that city, comes to the conclusion that "obstacles in the way of giving effect to the principle involved in such an invitation are, in my opinion, little likely, under the present circumstances and views entertained in the various sections of the Protestant Church to be overcome."

Sir Richard MacDonnell, in giving his consent to the publication of his letters, says:—

I still hope that the members of our Church generally will ere long be more alive to the absolute and ever increasing necessity of giving the Church a greater freedom of action and alliance; a greater and wider choice of means to reach the hearts and sympathies of her Protestant Evangelical brethren beyond her pale—between whom and herself there is no wider distinction now existing than that created by the different degrees of freedom of action enjoyed by each.

I also trust that the discussion will no longer be hampered and obscured by comparatively petty misunderstandings and trivial explanations, but that the important question we have raised will not be lost sight of, viz., how best to manifest affection for our Church by giving her that freedom of action, even though purchased by the sacrifice of a fetter imposed by a venerable tradition.

These views are greatly expanded in another letter from Governor MacDonnell to the bishop himself, in which he assumes that the "Union scheme," so far as the bishop is concerned, is adjourned *sine die*. Nevertheless, says his Excellency:—

There are those here, who, whilst they will not make a sacrifice which they believe to be needless, and which is certainly repugnant to their feelings, cannot afford time to await the realisation of such a gorgeous dream as that of a general conformity and a future common Church. They believe such schemes to be impracticable for the next century, though alliance might be possible in a few years. They are, therefore,

resolved to lose no opportunity of freeing the Church of their best and holiest sympathies from all fetters that impede its free religious action in alliance with other ministers and brethren of the pure evangelical Protestant faith. In that freedom—of which an occasional interchange of pulpits would have been a symbol—they see the fairest prospect of the Anglican Church, proving by her future progress that although unaided by the State, she can keep pace with the efforts and extension of kindred Protestant Churches.

Our Adelaide contemporary also publishes the protest of some 164 members of the Church of England to the Bishop, against the invitation "of an unordained minister, and of a denomination in separation from the Church" to teach from an Episcopalian pulpit. The memorialist, have, they declare, "abundant reasons why it is not possible for us to consent on the present or on any occasion that our Church should unite, or ally herself, or make any conditions of mutual assistance, with any man or body of men mooted the slightest compromise of principle." The bishop, in his reply, while confessing that his proposal for union may have been somewhat of "a dream," which "cannot be brought about by rudely breaking in upon cherished associations, deep-rooted convictions, or even reverend prejudices," concludes by saying:—

If, by the manifestation of kindly feelings and a just estimate of a really great man, I can in the slightest degree further that object, I do not think I shall have done amiss in writing to Mr. Binney, nor yet have given just ground for imagining that I am willing or able to compromise one single principle or time-honoured characteristic of our Reformed Branch of the Catholic and Apostolic Church.

In reference to this correspondence the *South Australian Advertiser* sensibly remarks:—

It is a novel thing to see the Governor of a province entering the list against the Lord Bishop in the character of religious reformer. Yet we see no reason why such should not be the case. There is no State Church in this colony, therefore Sir Richard MacDonnell, though the representative of the Queen in political matters, is not her representative in Ecclesiastical matters, and is, consequently, left quite free to act for himself. Whether this action is that of a private gentleman or of an official personage, we care not to inquire. We must hold to the opinion that Sir Richard MacDonnell is worthy of all praise for breaking the bonds of red tape wherewith the ancient rule of routine would have bound him. No doubt in thus coming down from the throne of high officialism to mix in the ordinary conflict of public life, his Excellency's actions will be more open to public comment than if he had continued to sit aloof in mute magnificence, neither showing his own opinion nor combating the opinions of others. And there may still be some who would like such a King Log to rule over them. But unless we much mistake the views of our fellow-colonists, they will admire the open-hearted, honest, manly manner in which his Excellency, scornful assumed superiority, is willing, whilst he lives amongst the people, to be one of the people—*primus inter pares*—to take part in their struggles, to share in their conflicts, and to reap the reward which every public man must look forward to, namely, the cordial approbation of friends, and the free but not ungenerous strictures of opponents.

Mr. Binney once more enters the lists with a long letter to the bishop, dated "Sandhurst, Bendigo, Nov. 29." He points out how, while his lordship is submitting a plan for the union of Evangelical Churches, he is entrenched in a position which completely interposes a preliminary obstacle to approach, conference, union, confraternity, and everything of the sort.

Disguise the matter as we may—lose sight of it as we often do—amid the courtesies of private life, from personal regard, in social intercourse, or on the platform of religious or philanthropic societies—hide it from ourselves, keep silent about it, do what we like to cover or conceal it, the fact is, and it is better at once honestly to look at it, that the Episcopalian clergyman cannot recognise the "orders" of the ministers of other Evangelical Churches—he cannot regard the men as ministers of Christ in the full and proper meaning of the words—he cannot admit their official standing or recognise their official acts. He may respect them as men, love them as Christian men, admire and esteem them as earnest and eloquent advocates of the truth; but to him they are not ministers—they have not been Episcopally ordained, and are therefore not ordained at all; their sacramental acts are invalid; their preaching is without authority,—properly speaking, indeed, they cannot "preach," though they may "give a word of exhortation;" whatever they may be thought by themselves or others, the ministers of non-Episcopal churches are, in the view of the Anglican clergy, laymen and nothing else. All this necessarily follows from the "tradition of eighteen centuries," when, as in the case of your lordship, a man has no doubt of its being an "apostolic" tradition, and of "inspired authority." The gist of the whole thing lies here. This principle touches and colours all thought—it interposes a bar to all action. Every scheme, plan, proposal for union or co-operation, will be wrecked upon this rock, shattered to atoms by the breakers which play around the position your lordship occupies, and from which you look out with such a calm consciousness of perfect security, or, to take your lordship's own figure, you stand on one side of the "gap" or gulf, and all Non-Episcopal Churches and ministers on the other; and that gulf, guarded, watched over, kept open by the Divine powers that reside in the words "apostolic," "inspired," and such like, how in the world is it ever to be bridged by mortal man? It never can be; nor will it ever close to admit the separated parties to come together, till there shall be thrown into it, sent down to the bottom and buried there, a goodly number of the "customs" and "traditions" of past ages. Though I speak thus, I am by no means insensible to the good that there may be in traditions and customs; I am not ignorant, either, how far some churches may surpass others as to the degree in which they approach the customs and order of apostolic times; I am not indifferent to the questions and consequences involved in or flowing from this; but sure I am, that, with the mere hints and germs of things, which we have in the New Testament; with the uncertainty which

belongs to the first age, the evidence of Jerome and the arguments of Chillingworth notwithstanding; with the fact facing us that your orders are as invalid as mine in the view of that church, which, in one sense, is the Mother of us all; on these and other grounds that might be mentioned—I feel that it is not wise for any Protestant Church whatever, either to assert that it is modelled exactly after an apostolic pattern, or to assume for itself, in relation to its ordinations and orders, such an exclusive validity as, in effect to unminister all other Protestant ministers. But to this, my lord, your tradition leads,—a tradition with you, "apostolic" as to its age, and of "inspired authority" as to its character and source. Consistently with this, it is impossible for you to recognise the ministerial acts, standing, or office of the clergy of the Non-Episcopal "Evangelical Churches;" and so long as that is the case, you can never co-operate with them, or they with you, on equal terms.

Mr. Binney says in conclusion,—

Your lordship, I am persuaded, acts conscientiously in going by "the old church clock;" you will, I am sure, accord to me like credit in treating all clocks as pieces of man's workmanship,—using them where I think they may be used with safety; but as none of them are of any worth except as they are in harmony with the shadow on the dial, preferring rather to go by that; testing and trying by it, as far as I can, whatever sounds from either Church or Convicticle. May we all do this honestly and earnestly, with humility and prayer, and be guided in doing it, that "in God's light we may see light!"

Mr. Binney hopes to reach England by the Overland route, at the end of July or the beginning of August next.

EDUCATIONAL TESTS IN SCOTLAND.—A public meeting was held at Edinburgh on Monday week, when resolutions were passed to the effect that strenuous exertions be made during the present session in Parliament to obtain the abolition of the test imposed upon the teachers of the parochial schools of Scotland binding them to conformity with the established Presbyterian Church. The meeting was presided over by the Lord Provost, and was addressed by Mr. Moncreiff, M.P., Mr. Black, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Candlish, and other clergymen and gentlemen. It was stated that the object of the present agitation, instead of being directed to the introduction of a general measure, in which respect the legislative efforts of Mr. Moncreiff and others had hitherto been unsuccessful, should be limited to the simple question of the ecclesiastical test, it being anticipated that, following the precedent of the University tests which Parliament abolished in 1853, they would first obtain the removal of the test, and afterwards the appointment of an educational commission, on the report of which as to the means of improvement and extension of the parochial system future legislation in the matter might proceed. It was urged that Scotland was nearly unanimous as to the character and substance of the education to be given, and that, with the parochial schools opened up to all denominations, with intermediate grammar schools established, and the Universities improved, a system of education might be instituted adequate to the wants of that country, and suited to the educational requirements of the age.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY IN SCOTLAND.—A meeting of the members and friends of the Liberation Society was held on the evening of Thursday, the 10th inst., in the Independent Chapel, Dalkeith—Alexander Mitchell, Esq., in the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer, by the Rev. A. T. Gowan. Mr. Oulton gave a very clear and interesting statement of the operations of the society, referring in detail to the various measures that had engaged their attention during the past year, showing the importance to the interests of religious freedom of such an organisation; and the success that had attended their efforts during the past five years, and the encouragement to increased effort in the prosecution of their work. The Rev. J. Rennie moved that this meeting feels called on to express their entire confidence in the operations of the society during the past year, and earnestly to solicit for it the liberal support of the friends of religious freedom. This was seconded by Mr. R. Somerville. The Rev. Dr. Brown moved, that this meeting have observed with satisfaction the recognition of the principle of religious liberty in the measures lately adopted for the future Government of India, and earnestly hope that some principle will ere long be recognised and applied throughout the whole British empire; which was seconded by Mr. Jordan. The Rev. D. Macintosh moved that the thanks of this meeting are due to Mr. Oulton for his able and interesting address; and Mr. J. Blair seconded it. With the adoption of a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting was closed.

PRO-CHURCH-RATE CELEBRATION AT CREWE.—A few weeks ago the Church-rate party, to celebrate their victory (?) gave a free dinner to all their voters, after which some remarkably choice speeches were delivered, and very elegant songs sung. Amongst others, one of the churchwardens displayed his vocal powers in that pathetic ballad "Oh Susanna don't you cry for me." A controversy, arising out of the late contest, is being carried on in the pages of the *Chester Record*, in which the Dissenters are certainly victorious. One correspondent, speaking of the dinner, said—"The twenty-five or thirty

gentlemen who formed the Church-rate committee can make a boast and a virtue of giving a dinner to all their voters, and yet are so mean as to endeavour to force Dissenters to pay a portion of so paltry a sum as that raised by a half-penny rate. If they loved their Church as much as they would fain make us believe, and wished to live in 'brotherly love,' of which some of them talk very loudly, why not have expended the value of the dinner in defraying their church expenses, which would have been much more creditable, and would have freed them from the reproach of sustaining their religion by compulsory payments." Another characterised the dinner as a device, "to smooth the ruffled consciences of those who voted for the rate, and to keep alive their very conscientious principles until the arrival of another polling day."—*From a Correspondent.*

CHURCH-RATES IN CHERTSEY, SURREY.—Sometime since, three persons were brought up, by summonses before the bench of magistrates, for non-payment of a Church-rate; the grounds on which it was resisted were that it was excessive, unequal in its assessment, and was made against a majority, or that a majority was illegally obtained. The parties summoned were defended by Mr. Bennett, of Ludgate-hill, and after about two hours' discussion the summonses were dismissed—the magistrates deciding that they had no jurisdiction to decide upon the legality of the rate. It is thought that it will be impossible to levy another rate, and an association has been formed to oppose the rate-party should they think proper to carry the matter to a higher court. The churchwardens have issued a notice of vestry to be held on Wednesday next, "to take into consideration the present position of the church-rate, and to determine what further proceedings shall be taken in the matter."

CHURCH-RATE SCHEME OF A CONSERVATIVE CLERGYMAN.—The Rev. John Cox, who for some years has taken a prominent part in the proceedings of the Hincford (Essex) Agricultural and Conservative Club, has published a bill which he has prepared, with a view to the settlement of the Church-rate question. The bill has twelve clauses, and the rev. gentleman, who is rector of Fairstead, Essex, seems to have devoted a good deal of pains to its compilation. The bill makes a distinction between towns and country parishes, as Mr. Cox proposes that the former shall not come under the operation of his measure unless two-thirds of the landlords having property in them shall resolve to participate in the act. The rev. gentleman further proposes to separate the maintenance of Church fabrics from the other purposes for which a Church-rate can legally be made at present, and provides for the former only by a county rate of 1d. in the pound to be levied on the tenant, who may deduct it on payment of his rent. For ordinary repairs the churchwardens are to obtain an estimate and submit it to some person appointed by the bishop of the diocese, who is to approve the estimate and proposed repairs; the amount to be expended in the ordinary repairs of a church in one year being limited to the sum which would be raised in the parish by a 1d. rate. The surplus is to be applied to the restoration and enlargement of churches. With regard to chancel, a charge is proposed to be levied upon lay rectors.

EPISCOPAL AND CAPITULAR PROPERTY (METROPOLIS).—A return moved for by Mr. Acton Ayrton, M.P. for the Tower Hamlets, gives the total net income of episcopal and capitular property within the metropolis in the year 1857 as follows—viz., in the see of Canterbury, 6,848*l.*; in the see of London, 10,623*l.*; in the deanery and chapter of St. Paul's, 4,885*l.*; in the deanery and chapter of Westminster, 18,176*l.*; and in the deanery and chapter of Canterbury, 4,141*l.*

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN SWEDEN.—The *Lien*, a Protestant journal of Paris, says:—"Sweden has taken a step in the path of liberty and conscience. A Royal decree confirms a law of the Diet repealing the law of 1726, by which the members of the Lutheran Church were interdicted from attending any religious meeting except those in the official places of worship. We enregister this act with joy. Unfortunately, however, we have received information of a new case of intolerance. The chapter of the cathedral of Wiski has commenced the prosecution of a carriage-maker, named Rechnitser, who had joined the Baptists, and laboured to make converts to his new faith."

INTERMEDIATE EDUCATION IN IRELAND.—Some attempts have lately been made in Ireland to establish an intermediate system of education, to be based, like the colleges and the national schools, on State grants; and on Saturday a public meeting with this object was held at Cork. The Bishop of Cork was one of its principal promoters, and Lord Fernoy occupied the chair; but it was a complete failure. The noble chairman, who has always been a zealous promoter of education, was rudely denied a quiet hearing by the priests and their adherents. When the concurrence of opposite parties in the common schools was appealed to as an argument in favour of the new plan, the Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that the national system was only harmless in the south of Ireland because it was "completely under the control" of the Roman Catholic priests; while another priest, the Rev. Mr. Barlow, denounced the Irish Protestants as "aliens," who should not be suffered to have any control in educational matters; and some congenial spirit in the crowd appeared to give utterance to the feelings of a large number of those present when he denounced the "infernal Protestants," and applied to them another expletive which we will not record. The result of this most uproarious meeting was that the proposition was defeated amidst a storm of groans, hisses, yells, and finally screams of triumph.

Religious Intelligence.

WATTON, NORFOLK.—The Rev. Henry Cope, of Setsworth, Oxon, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Watton, and purposes entering on his stated duties on Sunday, the 27th inst.

GUILDFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL.—The Rev. S. Percy having retired from the pastorate of the above church, a unanimous call has been accepted by the Rev. John Jones, of Hackney College, late of Mortlake. Mr. Jones, who is the son of the vicar of Llandissilio, in South Wales, has been labouring in Guildford for the last three months.

SOUTHAMPTON.—The Rev. J. A. Spurgeon, the brother of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate from the Baptist church and congregation assembling in Portland Chapel, Southampton, and formerly presided over by the Rev. A. McLaren, now of Manchester. Mr. Spurgeon expects to enter upon his labours about Easter next.

MR. HENRY HERMANN CARLISLE, B.A., senior student of Cheahunt College, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation from the church and congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. Thomas Adkins, Southampton, to undertake the office of Assistant Minister, with an ultimate reference to the co-pastorate. Mr. Carlisle intends entering upon his stated labours at the termination of his College course in June next.

RICHMOND.—The annual Congregational meeting at Vineyard Chapel was held on the 26th ult. The pastor, the Rev. Brainwhite French, presiding. A report of the operations of church and congregation during the past year was read, from which it was seen that the chapel and lecture-room had been cleaned and beautified, a British School established, and an old debt on the organ entirely removed, and the Auxiliary to the London Missionary Society reorganised. The congregation have also largely increased, there is much prosperity in every department, and both pastor and people have abundant reason for anticipating a still larger measure of success during the present year.

CHISWICK, MIDDLESEX.—The church and congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. W. C. Frith, have furnished within the last few weeks an example of the voluntary principle. The lease of the chapel expiring at Lady-day, 1859, the friends met at a social tea and pledged themselves to raise, without aid from other churches, a sufficient sum to renew the lease and redeem the whole of the rent. That object has been attained, and the effort has cemented afresh the bond of union between themselves and their pastor; a union which has resulted in the efficient working of a good Sunday-school, with several additions to the fellowship. The good feeling of the town towards pastor and people may be gathered from the fact, that several members of the Established Church have voluntarily contributed to the amount.

ARRIVAL OF THE REV. DR. BOAZ, OF CALCUTTA.—Among the passengers by the Alma, Indian steamer, we find the name of our old and valued friend, Dr. Boaz; and, while we deeply regret that the failure of health has been the occasion of his departure from India, we cordially greet him on his arrival in his fatherland. His departure from Calcutta was attended with the most gratifying and substantial evidences of respect and affection from his church and congregation; and, indeed, all classes of the Christian community in that city shared in the same feelings. Both the *Bengal Hukaru* and *Englishman*, two influential journals of Calcutta, contain laudatory articles doing justice and honour to Dr. Boaz, in the review of the long period of twenty-four years during which he has laboured.—*Patriot*.

CAVENDISH CHAPEL, RAMSGATE.—On Wednesday evening, February 2, the annual tea party in connexion with the Ramsgate Auxiliary to the Baptist Missionary Society was held, and was numerously attended. After tea, the people adjourned from the school-room to the chapel, which was thrown open at half-past six to the public, who were admitted by ticket. After an address by the Rev. B. Copeland Etheridge, who presided, Mr. John Templeton, of the Young Men's Missionary Society, London, delivered a most interesting and instructive lecture on India. The spacious chapel was well filled, the children of the Sunday-school occupying the gallery, and for two hours and a half the young people and children of older growth were deeply interested and delighted.

THE SUNDAY EVENING SPECIAL SERVICES.—On Sunday evening Westminster Abbey was densely crowded. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Hill, the Bishop Designate of British Columbia. The sermon next Sunday evening will be preached by the Rev. Dr. Christopher Wordsworth, Canon of Westminster Abbey. The preacher at St. Paul's was the Rev. Dr. Goulburn, minister of Quebec Chapel, and late master of Rugby School. The preacher next Sunday will be the Rev. C. J. Phipps Eyre, M.A., rector of Marylebone. At Exeter Hall the preacher was the Rev. Berkeley Addison, M.A., rector of Collyhurst, near Manchester. The Rev. Francis Tucker, minister of the Baptist chapel, Camden-road, preached the sermon in St. James's-hall, to more than three thousand hearers. His text was taken from Proverbs xxiii. 26, "My son, give me thy heart." Some papers distributed over the hall announced that a series of six special afternoon services will be commenced in St. James's-hall next Sunday, at three o'clock. The Rev. Newman Hall is to deliver an address, and the whole service is not to exceed one hour. "All classes are invited to

attend." The Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A., of Clayland's Chapel conducts the service next Sunday evening.

INTERESTING RAGGED-SCHOOL ENTERPRISE.—At the back of the "Lord Nelson," Old Kent-road, there are a number of houses inhabited by working people, and adjoining is a piece of ground, where occasionally are assembled caravans, &c., belonging to and inhabited by men and women who follow fairs and races with shows. The attention of a few friends having been drawn to the spot, the place was regularly visited for some time, and, after inquiries made at most of the houses, it was ascertained that very few of the people attended any place of worship, or the children any school. Within 100 yards of this species of encampment was a good-sized house, which a few years ago was one of ill-fame, and has now been taken for three years, and a ragged school and mission station is begun, and is well attended.

THE REV. T. BINNEY.—The Rev. T. Binney preached last Sunday morning and evening in the Congregational Chapel, Castlemaine, to overflowing audiences. His text in the morning was, "This is the day which the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it." The discourse was a characteristic one, it was instructive and suggestive, alike worthy to be remembered and difficult to be forgotten. The chapel was still more crowded in the evening, and Mr. Binney appeared to labour under a considerable degree of exhaustion consequent on the intense heat. A social meeting was held on Monday evening in the chapel, and was crowded to excess. The Rev. Mr. Day stated the object of the meeting to be to clear the debt of 400l. on the chapel. Forty persons had guaranteed 300l., if by collections the sum of 100l. could be realised. The collections at the various services, and proceeds of the social meeting, amounted to 117l. 9s. The meeting was addressed by the Revs. Messrs. Binney, Fletcher, of St. Kilda; Firth, Dr. Preston, and Messrs. Naylor, Fulton, and others.—*Melbourne Christian Times*, Dec. 11.

THE REV. C. H. SPURGEON'S NEW TABERNACLE.—The building committee appointed to carry out the erection of a new place of worship sufficiently large to meet the wants of the thousands who constantly attend the Surrey Music-hall to hear Mr. Spurgeon, have received some hundreds of designs from different architects in answer to an advertisement offering three prizes of 50l., 30l., and 20l. for those most approved. Rae's Repository, opposite the Elephant and Castle, is the place chosen to exhibit them to the public. Some of the designs are really beautiful, and, although the estimate is kept within the prescribed limit (16,000l.), it is evident that to complete the building of several of them would cost at least 25,000l. each. It will be decided on Saturday next which shall be the plan selected. Great excitement is manifested as to who will be the successful competitor. The Repository will be kept open to Mr. Spurgeon's friends and the public until the end of next week. It is intended to lay the foundation stone early in the spring, and by the end of this year it is anticipated that the neighbourhood will be graced by a building second to none of its kind in the metropolis.

TESTIMONIAL PRESENTATION, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—The annual tea meeting of the Congregational Church was held in the Borough Hall, on Monday evening, Feb. 6, on which occasion a testimonial of affectionate regard was presented to the Rev. Thos. Davison, their late pastor, who has been compelled to resign his charge on account of ill health. About 300 partook of a sumptuous tea, gratuitously provided by the ladies connected with the church and those of other Christian denominations. After the tea the large hall was filled with a respectable audience. The meeting was presided over by Samuel Braithwaite, Esq., the senior deacon. After an address by Mr. Holt, and the Rev. A. Howson, of Hartlepool, Mr. Cooper, one of the deacons of the church, in a very appropriate and feeling manner, presented the Rev. Thomas Davison with a purse, containing 76l., as a token of affectionate esteem from the church, congregations, and friends belonging to other denominations. Mr. Davison cordially reciprocated the kind and affectionate expressions of Christian regard which were that evening accorded, and earnestly thanked the friends who had so generously contributed towards the valued gift he had just received. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Mr. Mandall, a deacon of the church; the Revs. John Marsden, B.A., of Pudsey; F. Stephens, of Newcastle; G. Snashall, B.A., of Aire-dale College; J. Bennett, of West Hartlepool; and E. Heywood, of Stockton. It appeared from the speeches delivered that the very marked improvement in the cause of Congregationalism in Stockton was chiefly owing to the devoted and persevering labours of Mr. Davison during the six years of his pastorate. In connexion with the above testimonial, the children of the Sabbath school, at their annual tea meeting, presented Mr. Davison, their late pastor, with "The Commentary Wholly Biblical," and the members of Mrs. Davison's Bible-class also presented her with a handsome cake basket as a token of their affectionate esteem and their high appreciation of her valued services.

CENTENARY OF WELLS-STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL.—On Wednesday evening a meeting of the friends of the congregation assembling in this edifice was held in the chapel, Wells-street, Oxford-street. Mr. W. S. Lindsay, M.P., occupied the chair. It appears that the lease of the chapel expires Dec. 8, 1862. The trustees of the Berners' estate will not renew the lease of the present premises for more than twenty-one years, at an annual rent of 300l., and on stringent conditions. No one can be asked

to sign such a lease, without a guarantee fund having been raised, sufficient to protect him against all risk; and at the end of twenty-one years, and after the payment of 6,000l. in the shape of rent, the congregation would again be liable to be deprived of the chapel. The report for the past year states that the number of children on the books of the Sabbath school, at the present time, was 110, with an average attendance of seventy children. Besides ordinary classes, there were five of a very valuable nature for Biblical instruction. The prizes were then presented by the chairman. Mr. Lindsay, M.P., in addressing the assembly, explained the objects for which they had been principally convened—to celebrate the centenary of the edifice and congregation in which they were assembled. He reminded them that a hundred years was a large space in the world's history, and suggested some practical and solemn reflections as to personal duty, which he said the occasion strongly enforced on them all. From the facts given in the above statement as to the short period which they had to remain in the place, they would see the necessity of at once bestirring themselves to sustain the cause which, under the blessing of God, had so long been maintained within those sacred walls. They had already subscribed most liberally to the object among themselves, and he was sure, if proper activity were used, others would be found to come forward, and assist in so good a work. The Revs. R. Redpath (the minister of the place), Dr. Archer, J. W. Richardson, and W. Chalmers, delivered addresses suited to the occasion. A vote of thanks to the chairman was proposed and carried.

SCARBOROUGH.—UNITED REVIVAL SERVICES.—These services, which were commenced four weeks ago, still continue. The places of worship in the town are filled every day at noon, and crowded in the evening by Christians of all denominations, who meet to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. All sectional distinctions have been lost sight of; Episcopalians, Baptists, Independents, Wesleyans, Primitive Methodists, Free Church Methodists, Society of Friends, and Plymouth Brethren, unite with each other in public prayer. There has been no attempt to create an artificial excitement among the people; no public addresses have been delivered, save a few brief remarks thrown out occasionally by the ministers who preside. All the ordinary weekday services of the different congregations have been suspended. It is impossible to say when these united services will terminate, as the interest seems daily to deepen, and many are attending them who never attended a meeting for prayer before. A fortnight ago, a meeting of ministers and laymen of all the churches was held, to deliberate upon what steps should be taken to reach those classes in the town who are living without God, and unreached by any of the existing agencies; it was unanimously resolved that their dwellings should be visited. For this purpose the town was divided into districts, and two laymen appointed to each; in their visitations they were to urge upon the people the importance of religion, to read the Scriptures, to unite in prayer with them when practicable; and to induce them to attend the public prayer-meetings, they are furnished with a handbill stating the place and time of the meetings, and making an earnest appeal to the thoughtless, which is left at each house. A spirit of brotherly love has been created in the minds of Christians, who recognise each other on terms of religious equality. On Sunday week the Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyans preached in each other's pulpits. The spirit of awakening has spread into several villages in the neighbourhood. Similar meetings as those in the town are being held with the same results.

Correspondence.

THE BANBURY ELECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In contradiction to the statement in your journal of last week, I beg positively to affirm that I never was one of the party who endeavoured to persuade you to put yourself in nomination as a candidate to represent the borough of Banbury.

You know well what I said to you when I had an interview with you on the 29th of October last. If any of your supporters have represented to you that I was in any way implicated in their proceedings to get you to come forward as their representative they have grossly mis-stated the facts of the case. When they attempted to get up a requisition I told them I should not sign it, as I had too much respect for your character as a public man to do anything to induce you to place yourself in the position of a rejected candidate, because I could easily foresee such would be the result of the present contest. I must say that I feel indignantly surprised to find it stated that I supported Mr. Samuelson because he is a customer. I deny this statement in *totis*, and beg, as my reputation is as dear to me as your own, that you will be so good as to insert this letter to correct the misstatement made.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
EBENEZER WALL.

Banbury, Feb. 10, 1859.

[We willingly insert Mr. Wall's letter. It appears that our reporter put a somewhat erroneous construction on what is an unquestionable fact, viz., that when Mr. Miall attended the Reform meeting at Banbury, Mr. Wall expressed to him the hope, that when he (Mr. W.) next visited Banbury it would be in another capacity.]

On Sunday evening three members of the house of Israel made a public confession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, at the Jews' Episcopal Chapel, Palestine-place.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

SPEECH OF COUNT DE MORNAY.

The following is the speech addressed on Tuesday by Count de Mornay, the President, to the Corps Legislatif, and which is undoubtedly pacific.

Gentlemen,—I intended to speak to you of yourselves. I had prepared returns, showing the work accomplished since I had the honour of presiding over you, and demonstrating the estimations in which your suggestions are held by the Government, by enumerating the numerous amendments introduced by you, and the influence reserved to you by the Constitution; and I concluded that, taking into account the state of division which exists in our society, a legislative body which freely studies all questions serves the general interests of the country better than the former Chambers, whose Parliamentary contests reduced the votes on the laws to be nothing more than a political arm—a strategic party means. But this cold analysis appeared to me to be out of season. You are still too much under the influence of the emotion produced by the noble words you heard yesterday to permit me to withdraw your attention from them. Let us meditate on them, gentlemen, and, as we are the representatives of the nation, let us express to the Emperor an unlimited confidence, which ten years of wisdom, of moderation, of devotion to the interests of France, and his religious care of her honour, must have inspired us with. Have confidence when the Emperor tells us, "Resume tranquilly your labours—peace, I hope, will not be disturbed. I will remain firm in the path of law, justice, and national honour." And when, recollecting those celebrated words, "the Empire is peace," he adds that "peace cannot be disturbed except for the defence of great national interests," so many other considerations are added to dispel our uneasiness. Religion, philosophy, civilisation, credit, industry, have all made of peace the first benefit of modern society. The blood of the people is no longer lightly shed; war is the last resource of rights disregarded and of honour offended. The greater number of difficulties are removed by diplomacy or solved by pacific arbitration. Rapid international communication and publicity have created a new European power, with which all Governments are forced to account: that power is public opinion. It may for a moment be undecided or mistaken, but it always ends by siding with justice, with right, and with humanity. Let us hope that under present circumstances the generous ideas, the loyal and disinterested intentions of the Emperor, will make their way in the world, and that, adopted by the sympathy of the people, and sustained by the credit of sovereigns, they will succeed in resolving peacefully all difficult questions. Whatever be the future, let us act as in the past; let us take counsel only of our patriotism, let us rally still more round the throne. Defections or discouragements never save the country, nor any one. Our resolute co-operation will give the Emperor greater authority to negotiate, as it will give him, if need be, greater force to conquer.

The applause was most enthusiastic, and was repeated again and again at the allusions to peace, and was continued after its close. One of the Deputies cried out, as the President sat down, "That's the speech that should have come from the throne." The *Journal des Debats* regards this pacific speech as a more trustworthy interpretation of that delivered by the Emperor than the articles of those journals which clamour for war.

M. GIRARDIN'S PAMPHLET.

M. Emile de Girardin has published a pamphlet entitled "La Guerre," which has created some little sensation. The writer thinks that to make war for the miserable purpose of turning Austria out of Italy would be an unworthy "waste of powder," which had better be kept to be used against—pleasant prospect!—Prussia and England. He combats with great ability, paragraph by paragraph, the various pretexts put forth by the official pamphlet, "Napoleon III. et l'Italie," to justify an armed intervention in the Peninsula. He shows, in terms which must severely try the temper of the Imperial prompter of that production, that the deplorable state of things now existing in Rome is not justly attributable to Austria, but to himself, on account of his having bombarded Rome in 1849. He ridicules the idea of making the Pope President of an Italian Confederation, and quotes Napoleon I. to show the impossibility of reconciling the Pope's spiritual infallibility with temporal responsibility. The emancipation of Lombardy from the thralldom of Austria, which he admits to be most desirable, he thinks might be attained by time, peace, and the pressure of opinion, and he positively joins issue with the pamphlet on one of its main positions—that Austria can never be expected to yield without fighting, because she would be committing suicide. But in the second part of the pamphlet he says that if, contrary to his opinion, France feels the "absolute necessity" of making war, he would like to see a general war carried on by the aid of a Russian alliance against England and Germany, for the purpose of avenging Waterloo and founding two grand empires—the Empire of the West for France, and the Empire of the East for Russia. This scheme he shows, by copious extracts from writings of Napoleon I. and Napoleon III. would be a true carrying out of the "Idées Napoléoniennes." He concludes:—

If the object be to interfere in the affairs of the Romans, to place the Lombards under the Piedmontese Government, in spite of the remembrance of the Assembly of Lugano in 1848, and to have an Italian confederation presided over by the Pope, we shall say, Peace! If it be wished to take revenge for Waterloo, to restore the left bank of the Rhine to France, to realise, in fact, the programme of St. Helena and of Ham, and to found the great European association, we then say, War! Either war with its conquests, or peace with its progress.

M. E. de Girardin's position in France is peculiar. For many years he has laid aside his pen, on the ex-

posed ground that as he could not write freely he preferred not writing at all. Since that time he has long been closely connected with Prince Napoleon, and has accepted office under him as a member of the consultative council of Algeria; and, therefore, must be considered to have rallied to the empire through the prince, and perhaps on condition that he may enjoy a certain latitude to develop that liberal side of Napoleonism of which the prince has come to be considered the representative.

Public attention has also been attracted a good deal to a new map of Europe which for the last few days has been exposed for sale in every part of Paris. It has for its title "*L'Europe en 1860*," and is headed with a cross, with this motto, "In hoc signo vinces."

The *Patrie* has a communicated article, contradicting the statement that M. de la Guéronnière's pamphlet does not represent the ideas of the Emperor.

THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE.

In diplomatic circles it is generally credited that the representatives of the Great Powers will shortly meet at Paris to decide upon the question which has been raised with respect to the constitution of the Danubian Principalities on account of the double election of Hospodar. The 22nd of February is thought to be the day fixed for the meeting of the conferences to discuss the point raised by the double election of Colonel Couza.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—

It is, I believe, even doubtful whether it will be necessary to call the conference together to discuss the question of the Principalities. It is very probable that the *status quo* may be confirmed by diplomacy, without a meeting.

A correspondent of the *Nord*, of Brussels, writes from London that all the efforts made by England to induce France and Austria to agree upon a common ground for negotiation on the subject of Italy have failed.

THE PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

The Marseilles papers announce the arrival in that place, by steampacket from Algiers, of the 23rd Regiment of the Line, forming part of General Renault's Division, of which the regiments are to be immediately assembled at Lyons.

It is said that horses are about to be purchased in Algeria and the Regency of Tunis for the French cavalry.

The number of ships of war at present in commission in the French ports is 200. A ship being in commission, however, does not imply that she is ready for sea, as has been erroneously stated by some journals.

Six floating batteries are about to be constructed in the French ports on the model of the *Gemappes*. The batteries about to be constructed are different from those employed in the Crimean war, inasmuch as they are not flat-bottomed, and may be navigated like ships.

It is announced that a circular has been addressed by the Minister of Commerce to the Chambers of Commerce throughout France, informing them that orders have been given to commanders of ships of war to prevent, in future, the transportation of negroes from the coast of Africa to French colonies.

The commercial letters from Paris state there are as yet scarcely any signs of revival in the foreign trade of France, either with England or other countries, and that little likelihood exists of such a result until the Government shall have given some more definite assurances.

The *Moniteur* of Monday publishes the *projet de loi* presented to the Legislative body fixing the general budget of expenses and receipts for 1860. The budget of expenses is estimated at 1,795,367,481*fr.*, showing an increase on the budget of 1859 of 29,586,604*fr.* The increase to the receipts of the public revenue is estimated at 43,690,271*fr.*

AUSTRIA.

EXPECTED NEGOTIATIONS.

The mercantile letters from Vienna state that in consequence of the official article in the Government journal the apprehensions of war have temporarily subsided, and the Bourse has consequently been less weak. "There is no doubt," it is observed, "that our Cabinet has been pushed very hard by the English Government, and that the latter has succeeded in prevailing upon Austria to consent to a preliminary arrangement calculated to lead to a convention with France for settling the desired reforms in the Roman States by diplomatic means." The *Times* correspondent writes:—

The Austrian Government is prepared to take into consideration any proposals which the Western Powers may make for the improvement of the state of things in Central Italy, and it is not likely to object to evacuate the Legations within a given time. It is not that Austria has ceased to consider herself the shield—I had almost said "the sword" of Rome, but she remarks that the patience of Europe is exhausted, and fears that if she does not voluntarily withdraw she will receive a categorical summons from France, England, Russia, Prussia, and perhaps Sardinia.

The *Ost Deutsche Post*, in reproducing Louis Napoleon's Speech from the throne, remarks that the Emperor, by this speech, evidently cannot have intended to add to the excitement and the apprehensions still prevailing in the whole of Europe. "It tends, most decidedly," says the Austrian newspaper, "in the direction of peace, the chief evidence of which is the exhortation addressed by the Emperor to the Legislative Body, to resume with tranquil mind their ordinary business." The

same journal reprints a translation of La Guéronnière's pamphlet "Napoleon III. and Italy," without omitting any passage derogatory to the Austrian Government.

The official *Austrian Correspondence*, after attempting to refute the accusations of Count Cavour, says:—"Austria is sufficiently armed to ward off attacks against the Imperial sovereignty, but respects, nevertheless, the rights of other states to settle their affairs as they may please." The same journal declares the speech of the Emperor Napoleon at the opening of the Chambers to be satisfactory.

The latest Austrian census shows that the population of the empire has increased during the last six years nearly one million and a-half. The sum total now amounts to 39,411,309, of whom 7,870,719 are Germans, and 14,802,751 Slavonians, and 8,051,906 belong to the Latin race (Italian and Roumans), 4,866,556 are Magyars, and 817,712 belong to minor nationalities. The Jews, with 706,657 individuals, form the most considerable portion of the latter.

SARDINIA.

DEBATE ON THE WAR LOAN.

Particulars of the debate in the Turin Chamber of Deputies on the proposed war loan have come to hand. The attendance of deputies was extraordinarily full, and five members of the government—Count Cavour, General La Marmora, and MM. Lanza, Cadorna, and Paleocopa—were seated on the ministerial bench.

The debate was opened by Count Solaro della Margherita, the chief of the extreme Right, who protested against asking the country to make fresh sacrifices of money and of blood. He declared himself ready to vote any sum that might be needed for the defence of the country, but none for an aggressive war, which he believed to be contemplated.

Count Mamiani spoke next, replying to Della Margherita, and of course supporting the Government. His discourse was, as usual, eloquent and graceful, and included apt illustrations and historical references.

Marquis Costa de Beauregard followed. He declared, in the name of all the deputies from Savoy, that that province, the cradle of the monarchy, would afford the most energetic aid in defence of the independence and honour of the country, and that its soldiers would fight to the last against aggression. But in such aggression he did not believe; Austria was too prudent and skilful to attack. The message of the Emperor of the French, he added, expressed, in firm and noble language, that the situation of Italy afforded no motive for believing in war. The idea of an Italian war was universally unpopular in Savoy. The result aimed at, if attained, might radically change the political existence of that province.

Signor Michellini next spoke, supporting the Government. Camburzano followed Michellini, in opposition, and declared it would be folly for Piedmont to undertake an aggressive war unsupported; that laws, throne, and institutions would all disappear in the storm raised by such temerity. The galleries murmured, and the President, Signor Rattazzi, reminded them that all signs of censure or approbation were prohibited.

Count Cavour's was, as usual, the speech of the day. It was breathlessly listened to, and repeatedly cheered. The following is a brief summary:—Our consistent policy has been at all times national and Italian, and never of a revolutionary character. Austria has lately taken a menacing attitude towards us. She has increased her military forces at Piacenza, and has collected very large forces on our frontier, therefore the necessity arises for us to look for means for the defence of the State. The English alliance has always been the constant care of our whole political life. We have always considered England as the impregnable asylum of liberty. The cries of suffering coming from Bologna and Naples reach at last the banks of the Thames, while the tears and groans of Milan are intercepted by the Alps and the Austrians. But the cause of liberty, of justice, and of civilisation, must always triumph. As regards England, Lord Derby will not tarnish his glory by making himself an accomplice of those who wish to condemn the Italians to eternal servitude. Our policy is not defiant, we will not excite to war, neither will we lower our voice when Austria arms herself and threatens us. Referring to the Emperor Napoleon's speech, the orator said he should not permit himself to comment upon it, but would limit himself to saying "that the policy of Piedmont had received in this circumstance a solemn and complete approbation." The authority of the speakers in the English Parliament having been invoked by some of his opponents, he would ask them "whether those speakers, Ministerial or of the Opposition, Conservative or Liberal, had not unanimously admitted that the state of Italy was entirely abnormal." Why, it was asked, if the policy of Piedmont was neither provocative nor rash, why these measures of defence, these fortifications, this loan? Austria had no offensive intentions, and Count Solaro had even advised the disbanding of part of the army, in order to relieve the budget, and trust in the goodwill of Austria and the support of the allies. This could only be rendered possible by replacing the present Government by men representing different principles. In that case he (Cavour) agreed that even without an army there would be no danger from Austria. But he believed that the majority of the nation would not consent to such a change.

Count Revel, the leader of the more moderate portion of the right, expressed his reasons for voting the loan, in opposition to many deputies who usually vote with him. He hoped the money would not all be required for the defence of the country, but he

made no doubt that, in the present state of the finances, the Government would find plenty of uses to which to put it.

Some other members afterwards spoke for and against the bill, the result being as already mentioned by telegraph—the adoption of the measure by 116 votes to 35.

The speech of the Emperor Napoleon has produced considerable sensation throughout the whole of Italy. Letters from Milan, Venice, Florence, and Bologna, all agree in considering the words of the Emperor as a pledge for a better future for the Italian peninsula. The Piedmontese press, moderate or radical, all speak in admiration of the speech. The *Opinione* says that France has not for a long time heard words so worthy of her grandeur and of her power.

DIPLOMATIC LETTER BY COUNT CAVOUR.

The following circular has been addressed by Count Cavour to the diplomatic agents of the Sardinian Government at foreign courts:—

TURIN, Feb. 4.

The Government of the King has asked the sanction of Parliament to the contracting a loan of 50,000,000 lire, designed to meet the exigency of events that might come to pass in Italy, and the nature and extent of which it is yet impossible to foresee.

As this measure, which prudence has suggested to us, may give rise to unjust comments, I have thought fit clearly to represent to you the idea that has dictated it, in order to enable you to rectify any inaccuracies of judgment on the part of politicians and of the organs of public opinion in the country where you reside. Three years will soon have expired since the King's Government, while calling the attention of Europe, by the organ of its plenipotentiaries at the Congress of Paris, to the grievous state of Italy, protested against the extension of Austrian influence in the Peninsula beyond the stipulations of the treaties, and announced that, if a check were not put to it, the result might be serious dangers for the peace and tranquillity of the world. The representations of Sardinia were favourably received by France and England, and were reproduced in some sort in a solemn manner in the Congress itself. Italy then conceived hopes, and men's minds seemed to calm down. But the hopes to which this manifestation of interest on the part of the Western Powers gave birth have little by little been dissipated.

The state of Italy has undergone no modification. The preponderating influence which Austria there exercises beyond the limits that treaties have assigned to her, and which constitutes a perpetual menace to Sardinia, has rather augmented than diminished.

On the other hand, the different States of the Peninsula have persisted in a system of government the result of which could but be the discontenting of the population and a provocation to disorder.

Notwithstanding that the dangers wherewith Sardinia was menaced in consequence of such a state of things had become more serious and more imminent, the conduct of the King's Government has always been regulated by a spirit of propriety and reserve which men of good faith cannot refuse to recognise.

If his Majesty's Government proudly repelled the pretensions of Austria, which demanded modifications in the institutions of the country, it did not assume a hostile attitude towards her, when the Cabinet of Vienna thought proper to seize a pretext, judged futile by almost all the statesmen of Europe, to break off with *déclat* diplomatic relations with Sardinia.

Sardinia limited her course of action to reminding, from time to time, those Governments with which she entertains friendly relations, of the sad predictions which facts daily verified, and to invoking their solicitude for the condition of the Peninsula.

She has never concealed the apprehensions and the sympathy inspired in her by the state of the greater part of the Italian provinces. But when she has deemed it her duty to manifest them publicly, she has done it with as much moderation as propriety. By her example, by her conduct in the last war and in the Congress of Paris, by the manifestation of her interest and commiseration towards the Italian populations, Sardinia has striven to bring back hope, patience, and calm in the midst of despair, impatience, and agitation. She has abstained, with the greatest care, from playing a part in any degree irritating, and if public right has been infringed, it is certainly not Sardinia that can be accused of the least infraction of existing treaties.

This spirit of moderation, of which all the acts of the king's government have hitherto borne the stamp, has been appreciated by all impartial men and by public opinion in Europe.

But now the extraordinary military measures which the cabinet of Vienna has just taken, and which are evidently directed against Sardinia, whose armaments are relatively very weak, force the king's government, without abandoning that resolve, to prepare itself against a danger which may become imminent. Those measures are known to Europe. I think it right, nevertheless, rapidly to recapitulate them.

In the first days of January, before the king had pronounced the opening speech of the new legislative session, the Vienna cabinet announced in its official journal the sending of a *corps d'armée* of 30,000 men into Italy. This corps, added to three others which are established there in a permanent manner, would increase the strength of the Austrian army to an extent very disproportionate with what the maintenance of order and of internal tranquillity could require.

At the same time that these troops were sent into Lombardy and Venetia with extraordinary rapidity, frontier battalions, which leave their country only in case of war, were known to arrive. The garrisons of Bologna and Ancona were reinforced. But, what is most serious, Austria concentrated considerable forces on our frontier; she collected between the Adda and the Ticino, and especially between Cremona, Piacenza, and Pavia, a real corps of operations, which certainly could not be destined to maintain order in these towns, which are of quite secondary importance.

For some days the bank of the Ticino presented the appearance of a country in which war is about to break out.

The villages were occupied by detached corps—everywhere quarters were prepared and measures were taken to form stores. Vedettes were placed even on the bridge of Buffalora, which marks the limits of the two

countries. I say nothing of the menacing discourse held publicly at Milan and in other towns by the greater part of the Austrian officers, without excepting those of eminent rank, for I know that one must not always render governments responsible for the language of their agents.

But I think it necessary to call attention to the reception given at Venice to the troops coming from Vienna, and to the ostentation with which vast preparations have been made at Piacenza by occupying forts which were constructed in defiance of treaties, and which the Austrians have appeared to neglect for some time past.

In presence of arrangements so menacing to us, the country has been much agitated. Confiding in the patriotism of the King and his Government, it remains calm; but it demands that thought should be given to putting it in a position to confront the eventualities, of which such a display of forces on the part of Austria may be taken as a forerunner.

It is to this end that the Ministry resolved to summon into Piedmont the garrisons established in Sardinia and beyond the Alps, and has asked the Chambers for authority to contract a loan.

This last request, which I expect will be adopted, while proving to the nation that the Government has the consciousness of what the security and honour of the country impose upon it, will maintain tranquillity in the public mind, and will permit us calmly to await future eventualities.

I hope you will have no difficulty in convincing the political persons with whom you are in relation that the measure above indicated with an exclusively defensive object, far from containing a menace for the tranquillity of Europe, will have for result to calm the agitation in Italy and to reassure men's minds by giving birth to the feeling of confidence that Piedmont, strong in her good right, and aided by the allies which the justice of her cause can alone procure her, is ready to combat every element of disorder in the Peninsula, from whatever quarter it may come; from Austria or from the revolution.

I charge you to hold this same language to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and, begging you to keep me informed of the judgments which shall be passed on the measures in question, I offer you, &c.,

(Signed)

C. CAVOUR.

From Turin we learn that officers who have retired from the army have asked permission to return to active service in case of war. The official military gazette recalls leave given to officers as well as soldiers. In the Piedmontese army as many as 106 sergeants have recently been promoted within a few days to be officers. The Piedmontese papers mention the continual arrival of deserters from the Austrian army in Lombardy.

The brother of Felice Orsini had arrived in Turin from America to enrol himself in the Piedmontese army. The Orsini as well as the Garibaldi are therefore prepared to take their part with Piedmont by the side of France.

Sardinia is already reaping the fruit of a war policy. Her trade is completely stagnant, and the people are becoming impatient to have an end of suspense. Nothing, they say, could be more unfavourable than the present state of uncertainty.

THE ROMAN STATES.

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN ROME.

Advices have been received from Rome to the 8th inst. The Pope having sent his Major Domo to pay his compliments to the Prince of Wales, the Prince made an official visit to his Holiness.

The *Morning Post* correspondent has the following particulars on the subject:—

Col. Bruce was the only person present at the interview, which was brief, and limited to complimentary expressions and subjects of local interest, but perfectly satisfactory to all parties. On the Prince's rising to take his leave the Pope conducted him again to the door with the same warmth of manner which he had testified on receiving him. His Royal Highness did not visit the Cardinal Secretary of State, as is generally the custom after an audience of the Supreme Pontiff, but I understand that the Prince will not omit paying that compliment to Cardinal Antonelli before long. It is also the intention of his Royal Highness to visit the numerous members of various Sovereign families of Europe now domiciled in the Eternal City before applying himself steadily to those studies the prosecution of which has formed the principal object of his visit to Rome. On Saturday his Royal Highness went to call upon the King of Prussia, but the visit was, in fact, to the Queen, the state of his Majesty's health making it painful for any one to see him.

The following is an extract from a letter from Rome, dated the 5th inst.:

Some journals have announced that strong reinforcements were about to arrive from France. Other journals have denied the fact. Both are right. The French Government will not send new regiments, but it will place the regiments of Rome on the war footing. 1,000 men are expected at Civita Vecchia for that purpose. The Romans are preparing for the Carnival. The authorities on their side are adopting measures to prevent disturbance, as it is possible that, in consequence of the reports of war which are prevalent, certain agitators might take advantage of the liberty permitted during the Carnival. For this reason the Governor of Rome has forbidden masks, and will not permit any disguise. Similar measures were adopted in 1850. Last year masks were permitted, but the excitement which prevails at present in Lombardy renders the authorities more severe. Nevertheless, Rome and the Papal States enjoy the most perfect tranquillity. Everybody smokes cigars, notwithstanding the attempts of some Radicals to impose the pipe on them. Notwithstanding the bad weather, the ceremony of the purification of St. Peter was attended by great crowds. At ten o'clock the Pope took his seat on the throne erected for him in the church. He presented wax tapers to the cardinals, bishops, ambassadors, and some privileged persons. The procession then moved along the nave. After the Pope, carried on the *sedilia*, came

the ambassadors. The Duke de Rianares took rank after the ambassadors.

According to the *Dublin Warder* the present policy of the Cardinals is to pour fulsome flattery upon the English aristocracy visiting Rome, and accordingly special attention is paid to every heretical tourist. Monsignor Talbot entertains like a Belshazzar. Brilliant fêtes for the Britishers are the order of the day, and at these nothing is to be heard for the nonce but laudation of England.

It is stated in a letter from Rome, that although the French Government will not send new regiments to Rome, it will place the regiments already there on the war footing, and that 1,400 men are about to be despatched for that purpose.

The alarm at Rome, in what is termed the "sacred college," manifests itself in the sending of a special envoy, Cardinal Brunelli, to remonstrate at Paris against any change in the State machinery of that part of Italy. The actual Nuncio, Sacconi, is not listened to here.

THE TWO SICILIES.

ILLNESS OF THE KING OF NAPLES.

It is reported that the King has suffered much from tertian fever, and from a tumour in the knee. Among the hangers-on of the court much apprehension, or rather anxiety, has been expressed. Hopes are entertained by them that the King will remain very quiet and avoid all excitement; in short, their tone has been such as to indicate the possibility of a change.

The hereditary Princess Anne Marie of Tuscany, daughter of the King of Saxony, died on Thursday at Naples, in the twenty-third year of her age.

THE EXILES.

The following is an extract of a letter from one of the Neapolitan prisoners transported to New York, dated Bay of Cadiz, on board the Neapolitan war-steamer Stromboli, Feb. 2, 1859:—

It is impossible for any one of us to land: our imprisonment continues, and will end only at New York. Not even Poerio, who is ill, has been allowed to land for an hour. A Spanish sailing vessel has been hired, on board of which we shall soon be placed. The Neapolitan steam-frigate which escorts us will tow the Spanish ship for two days, and then will turn back. We shall continue our voyage alone.

After having passed ten years in a sepulchral stillness it is hard to be tossed about at sea. I am, however, cheerful and well, and happy in thinking I shall soon be free. On board this steamer we are well treated. From New York I shall come to England.

Forgive my incoherent letter; the noise, the effects of a sea voyage, and, to tell the truth, a little vexation at having to make so long a voyage without any reason, the new life which I live, have bewildered my poor brains, and I hardly know what I am doing.

We are all well, Poerio excepted, who has long suffered from bronchitis, which of late having become worse, gave us great uneasiness. He is now better, but who knows what may happen during the voyage, which must last at least a month! We are in God's hands; we are cheerful; and bear up manfully. Forgive my uncouth epistle; I tell you my head is quite confused, and I am giddy.

It is stated in the *Daily News* that ample preparations are making at New York to give these noble men, who, although released from his prisons, yet feel the heavy hand of King Ferdinand's cruelty, a reception that will resound throughout the world.

SPAIN.

A private letter from Paris reports rather a curious incident. In his tour, the Comte de Paris was received at Seville with the honours due to a king's son. The French Ambassador at Madrid protested; and at a subsequent stage the young Count was received only as a private gentleman. On hearing of this, the Duke de Montpensier was seriously offended, and at once resigned all the Spanish titles which have been conferred upon him as husband of the Infanta Luisa. It is even said that he contemplates leaving Spain. The occurrence has caused some feeling of embarrassment.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

The following reply of her Majesty to the petition of the Legislative Assembly of the Ionian State, for the union with Greece, was read by Mr. Gladstone to the Assembly on the 5th inst.:

VICTORIA REGINA.

Her Majesty has taken into her gracious consideration the prayer of the petition presented by the Legislative Assembly of the Ionian Islands with reference to the interests of the islands themselves, of the States in their neighbourhood, and of the general peace.

Having regard to these objects, her Majesty, invested as she is by the Treaty of Paris with the exclusive protectorate of the Ionian State, and constituted the sole organ of that State in the councils of Europe, can neither consent to abandon the obligation she has undertaken, nor can convey, nor permit, any application to any other power in furtherance of any similar design.

Her Majesty does not desire to impose new fetters on opinion; but she will enforce, wherever it is placed in her charge, the sacred duty of obedience to the laws.

Her Majesty has adopted, on her part, the measures which she deems most conducive to the good of the Ionian people; and she awaits the enlightened co-operation of their parliament.

V. R.

By letters of the 8th instant we are informed that Mr. Gladstone had laid before the Senate the plans of the British Government for reforms in the constitution of the islands. The chief provisions are these:—

That the civil government of the Ionian State should henceforward consist of a Presidency; a Parliament, comprising a Legislative Senate and a Legislative Assembly; a President and Council of Ministers; and a Judicial Authority, together with the necessary subordinate officers.

That while the Lord High Commissioner will appoint

and remove the ministers, they will, in order to their due harmony with the Legislative body, hold office during pleasure only; and he shall be bound to remove them on a joint address to that effect from the two Chambers.

That, with the exception of such heads as her Majesty shall by Order in Council, within a time to be limited, declare to be requisite for the discharge of her office as protecting Sovereign, all acts in which the Lord High Commissioner now has sole authority shall be performed by him only with the counter-signature of a responsible minister; and all acts in which he has now an authority concurrent with the senate, shall be done without his intervention by the Council of Ministers, or a member thereof.

That as to all new laws, it shall be sufficient, in lieu of reciting therein the approval of the Lord High Commissioner, that there be substituted his simple *visa*, without which they shall not take effect.

That the senate, divested wholly of its initiative and executive powers, shall simply have a veto upon all bills for granting a civil list or budget, and for raising taxes, and a concurrent authority with the Assembly in regard to all other bills.

That the majority of the senate be elected, for a lengthened term, by a special constituency; and that the minor part be nominated by the Lord High Commissioner, for the same term, with the concurrence of the Ministry, from among persons qualified in a manner to be determined.

That the Assembly shall have exclusive power to impose taxes, and to authorise public expenditure.

The proposals are said to have made some impression, but the Legislature has postponed its reply.

TURKEY.

Advices have been received from Constantinople to the 2nd inst. The reserve of the Turkish army has arrived; but such is the want of money that the arrears of pay of the forces in Asia and also of the Government *employés* have remained undischarged for eighteen months—ten per cent. has been offered to the creditors of the civil list, which however was protested against by them.

The Sultan has ordered magnificent fêtes to celebrate the occasion of the new marriage.

A private letter states that the Porte has notified to the ambassadors that it would not confirm Colonel Couza's nomination as Hospodar of Moldavia, first because he had not attained the required age, and next, because he did not possess the revenue of 3,000 ducats a year, which the regulations called for.

Ethem Pacha has been sent to the Principalities as extraordinary commissioner. Twenty battalions of infantry together with the necessary artillery will be despatched to the Danube, and placed at the disposal of Ethem Pacha, who, in certain exigencies, is empowered to order the troops to enter the Principalities.

SERVIA.

In the sitting of the Skuptschina on the 9th the berat of investiture of Prince Milosch was read. It states that the Prince is elected by the Sultan as Hospodar, but makes no mention of any hereditary right. The Skuptschina protested energetically against it as a violation of popular rights.

A despatch from Belgrade, of the 11th instant, announces that Prince Milosch has proclaimed himself hereditary prince. M. Kagazinovich has been named provisionally Minister of Foreign Affairs, and M. Joannovich, Minister of the Interior.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The Wallachian deputation charged to deliver to Prince Alexander Couza the official act of his nomination has been welcomed at Jassy with the most lively enthusiasm. It was received on the 10th by the Prince, who is said to have replied to it with great dignity and moderation.

The *Presse d'Orient* says:—"M. Gregory Stourdza is a prisoner in his own house at Jassy, and the National Assembly is inquiring into the circumstances of the attempted insurrection. Mourad Bey, the principal agent of Gregory Stourdza, is arrested."

UNITED STATES.

A caucus of democratic members of the Senate has adopted resolutions declaring it inexpedient to change the Tariff Law during the present session; and that it is the duty of Congress to reduce expenditure instead of increasing revenue in order to meet the requirements of the public service.

Mr. W. H. Prescott, the historian, died on the 25th ult., after a brief illness, caused by an attack of apoplexy. His age was 62.

Nothing has been done in Congress on the Cuban question.

In the House, a preamble and resolutions, setting forth that there is strong reason to apprehend that the laws for the suppression of the African slave trade are to be set at defiance, and their violation openly countenanced and encouraged by the citizens of a portion of the States; that the existing laws against the slave traffic should remain unchanged; and that the President should at all times be sustained in enforcing such laws, were read, and a motion made to suspend the rules to permit of their being introduced. The motion was defeated by a vote of 84 "yeas," to 115 "nays."

Lord Napier had accepted an invitation to a public ball in his honour at Washington; he declined a similar compliment from New York.

From Central America we learn that Sir William Gore Ouseley, the British minister, had arrived at Leon, and after the customary presentation ceremonies proceeded at once to the work of negotiating a treaty with the Secretary of Foreign Relations of Nicaragua. This treaty, so far as relates to the

transit route, is said not to differ much from the Cass-Yussari convention.

CANADA.

The Canadian Parliament was opened on the 29th, with a speech from the Governor-General. Sir Edmund Head said that the Canadians having solicited Queen Victoria to select a new capital for them they were bound to abide by her decision.

At a supper recently given by the Charitable Society of St. George, of Toronto, the Hon. Mr. Cartier, the premier, was present as an invited guest, and in the course of a speech made the following announcement. He said:—

Gentlemen, at the last audience with which our beloved Queen honoured me, her Majesty addressed the following words to me, "Mr. Cartier, I understand that you are about leaving this country for Canada; do not fail to communicate to my loyal subjects in that province, that I take the deepest interest in Canada, and that no one more than I do desires to see its people prosperous and happy."

This announcement produced an explosion of loyalty on the part of the sons of St. George, who sprang to their feet, and made the welkin ring with their cheers.

MEXICO.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH DEMANDS.

From Mexico, *via* Washington, we learn that the British and French Admirals united in demanding of the Government of Vera Cruz:—First—Payment of the interest due to British and French creditors; Second—Full monthly statements of the revenues collected from imports; Third—Damages for what the English and French subjects have suffered from the existing revolution; Fourth—The restoration of the old import tariff as it stood prior to the modifications made a year ago, by which great facilities were afforded to commerce, and the import duties were reduced thirty per cent. The old tariff provided also for credits of forty and eighty days for import duties; the new exacts cash payments. The French Admiral, Pénard, further insists that the payment to the French creditors now demanded shall be not the percentage heretofore agreed to upon the receipts from imports actually collected under the modified tariff, but an amount equal to what they were last year.

Robles still exercised authority at the capital. Miramon was on his way to the capital, and it was rumoured that he would not accept the Presidency, nor support Robles for that office, but that he would adhere to the plan of Zuloaga.

THE WEST INDIES.

According to dates from Jamaica to January 27, the weather has been genial throughout the island. Fever prevailed in some districts.

From Trinidad we learn that activity prevailed in sugar making, the weather continuing favourable for reaping the crop. The yield of juice from the canes was good, and the saccharometer showed a higher degree of sweetness than is usual at the commencement of the season. The supply of labour seemed to be nearly up to immediate wants. Three more vessels had arrived with Indian immigrants—two from Madras, and one from Calcutta.

In the Demerara Court of Policy a letter was read from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, stating that a greater number of Coolies had been sent to Trinidad than the Government could dispose of. It was thereupon agreed that a communication should be forthwith entered into with the governor of Trinidad, and an offer made to take over for this colony such of the Coolies as might not be provided for. A letter from Mr. Cave was laid before the Court relative to immigration from China, and the continuance of the arrangement for a longer period than the one year for which it had been sanctioned by her Majesty, and the Attorney-General was directed to bring in a bill for the purpose, providing also for the obtaining of a proportion of women. Tidings had been received of the arrival of Mr. Gardiner Austin at Hongkong. He reached there on the 16th of November, and left three days after for Shanghai. The prospect as regards immigration was cheering.

A file of the *Barbadoes West Indian* is before us. The reply of the grand jury to the charge of the Chief Justice speaks volumes as to the improved character of the peasantry. "Having closed our labours, we beg leave to congratulate your Honour on the comparatively small calendar—showing so few cases of capital offences, which we hope is a sign of some improvement in the condition of our population." If the commercial state of the colony is to be judged from the advertisements it must be very prosperous, for of twenty columns of the paper of 17th December, no less than eighteen and a half columns are filled with advertisements, amongst which there is not one of an estate to let nor one to be sold in the colony.

At the annual show of stock and industrial exhibitions, the most remarkable were a crochet collar, made by a young lady, of silk grass, and a miniature steam engine of brass, made by a negro lad in imitation of the engine on Mr. Carrington's estate, which he set to work by lighting spirits of wine under the boiler.

Two cargoes of Coolies had arrived at Trinidad, containing 788 immigrants, of which 443 were men, 190 women, with about equal proportions of boys and girls.

In Grenada not only were old estates thriving, but some which had been abandoned were now restored to cultivation. Business had taken a new start, and the stores were full of all sorts of goods.

HAYTI.

ABDICATION OF SOULOUQUE.

Late accounts from Hayti indicate that the revolution was over. It appears that on arriving at Port-au-Prince, General Geffard sent a flag of truce to the Emperor, offering him his life and protection to his family if he would abdicate his power and save the people of Hayti from the horrors of a civil war. Soulouque demanded time to consider, which was allowed him, but before the allotted time had expired the Imperial troops laid down their arms and made common cause with the followers of Geffard. The Emperor, no longer left to his choice, proceeded to make out his papers of abdication, and on the 15th he caused the following proclamation to be made:—

Haytians,—Called by the will of my people to govern the destinies of Hayti, all my care and anxieties have constantly been for the welfare of my citizens and the prosperity of my country. I held hopes that I could have relied on the affections of those who elevated me to the supreme power; but the last events that have taken place do not permit me to doubt the true sentiments of the people. I have too much friendship for my country to hesitate in sacrificing myself for the good of all. I abdicate, and have only one wish, that Hayti may be as happy as my heart has always desired.

A letter from Hayti says:—"It is spoken of here as a glorious revolution, as thousands of weapons were drawn, but not a single life lost. President Geffard is a soldier every inch of him. The Emperor and his partisans have received all the kindness and protection that a truly noble and humane man could give them. The mob was ready to tear them to pieces, if they had not been restrained by the President."

The ex-Emperor and family had reached Jamaica. A letter from that island says:—"The black people here are to a man in favour of Soulouque, as may be inferred from the demonstrations they made upon his landing. They rushed in thousands along the streets to gain a sight of him."

SOUTH AMERICA.

Chili remains in a very disturbed state, and the provinces were still under martial law.

From Peru there are very unsatisfactory reports of the state of the country, and the prospects of a general revolt against the present Government appear to increase.

The Paraguayans had so strongly fortified the river that it was not expected the Americans would succeed in any warlike attempt they might make. It was said that a number of English officers were assisting the Paraguayans. The latter had also thrown every obstacle in the way of the United States squadron ascending the river. Many of the American ships of war, from their draught of water, would be unable to proceed up the river. The American squadron consisted of fifteen ships and gunboats.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The Calcutta mail of Jan. 9th, and the Hong Kong mail of Dec. 30, has arrived. The principal intelligence has been anticipated by telegrams.

On the 21st Dec. last, the Governor-General of India issued a decree disarming the whole of Upper India. This measure is expected to diminish the necessity for a large native army. It is understood, also, that one small fortification will be raised at every station in the north-west, so as to render the seizure of treasure, or a simultaneous massacre of Europeans both difficult and hazardous.

Mr. Montgomery, late Chief Commissioner of Oude, has been promoted to be Lieutenant-Governor of the new presidency of the Punjab, which contains a population of 22,000,000, and which will shortly be garrisoned by 17,000 Europeans and 45,000 Sikhs.

The campaign in Oude was considered very nearly over. The rebels are hopelessly beaten everywhere, and must disperse. The ever-increasing force of Europeans, and the energy displayed during a long struggle, render the British position for the hour impregnable.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* says it was expected that Government would soon be able to grant furloughs, when the rush of Indians homeward would probably astonish the Peninsular and Oriental Company.

Sir John Lawrence has been appointed the first Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and its dependencies. His jurisdiction will extend over the Trans and Cis Sutlej states, and the Delhi territory. It is said that his health fails him, and that he will be obliged to take a trip to England. When the Governor-General leaves Allahabad, Mr. Edmonstone will, it is understood, become Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, in which Oude will be included. The Chief Commissionership will then be abolished, and Mr. Montgomery will temporarily take Sir John Lawrence's place.

DISARMING IN OUDE.

In one of his letters, the date of which is Intha (a village of Oude, between Buraech and Nanparah), December 23rd, Mr. Russell mentions as proofs of our recovered ascendancy in Oude, that all the chiefs, with two or three exceptions, had made their submission to the British Government; that upwards of 400 native forts had either been demolished or were in process of demolition; and that between the 1st November and the 11th December the native population had given up to the agents of Government 23,250 muskets, 73,417 swords, 4,532 spears, 10,528 bows, 3,228 daggers, 6,900 shields, and 94,499 weapons of other sorts, making a total of 316,379 weapons, offensive or defensive. These figures tell a very satisfactory tale, and show to what a great extent this province is once more within our power.

Ms. A. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
Ins. BRITISH MUSEUM

But still the Begum and Bainie Madhoo held out, at the head probably of some 10,000 men, although the former had been driven by the advance of our troops to Enchwa, a fort between the Gogra and the Serjoo, and the latter to Nanparah, a town lying on the north-east of Oude, near the Nepaulese frontier, and thither Lord Clyde was following them.

THE PURSUIT OF NANA SAHIB.

Nana Sahib, who has inspired the world with horror at his very name, was lurking with some 300 or 400 horsemen at or near the jungle fort of Churda, about nine miles north of Nanparah,—a price of 15,000*l.* being set on his person by the British Government. With the Begum and Bainie Madhoo, Lord Clyde had entered into negotiations for their surrender, but the Begum declined to come to terms unless a fixed sum was promised to her for the maintenance of herself and her son, and to this proposal Lord Clyde had no authority to accede. So long as the Begum holds out, Bainie Madhoo had declared that he should remain faithful to her, and it was thought probable that they might endeavour to escape into Nepaul, if they could persuade the Government of that State to grant them an asylum, although this was not all likely. Failing that, it was supposed they would try to cross the Gogra and make for Central India, but so closely were they hemmed in that it seemed almost impossible that they could effect that object, or that their surrender or capture could be long delayed. With Nana Sahib there was of course no thought of treating, and negotiations had been entered into both directly or indirectly, to secure his delivery into our hands by the Rajah of Churda, although their result was doubtful.

A later letter, dated Bankee, Jan. 1, gives further particulars on this subject. On the 30th information was received that the Nana Sahib, Bainie Madhoo, and some thousands of Sepoys and desperadoes had collected near Bankee, about twenty miles north of Nanparah. A night march was resolved on and carried into effect. The loss of their guns, the suddenness of the attack, and the surprise, all told on the rebels, and they are said to have felt that they are now no longer safe wherever they may go. Mr. Russell adds:—

It is much to be regretted that we missed Nana Sahib, but we shall not have him yet. We must wait till the hands of the enemy are more thoroughly dispersed. I saw to-day a Sepoy of the 72nd Bengal Native Infantry who was with the Nana's own force yesterday, being one of his armed followers. He said that the first intimation of an advance was the sound of the guns opening upon the head of the column. The Nana was in the wood a couple of miles in the rear. He at once gave orders for flight, had his eight elephants loaded, and made straight off for the Raptree, which he crossed, no doubt, long before our cavalry reached its banks. But, although that particular body of the rebels may not have been warned of our approach, that which defended the entrance into the jungles was no doubt advised of it by their cavalry pickets before we came in sight. Living in a state of constant apprehension, the rebels are ever on the alert, and throw out strong pickets of horse all along their front, which are on the watch night and day, though the cold is said to effect their energy. Indeed, we heard at one of the villages that a picket galloped past with the news of our advance half an hour before our advanced guard made its appearance.

According to the *Calcutta Englishman* the Commander-in-Chief's intended return to England is to lay his title and fortune at the feet of a fair lady, encouraged, probably, in undertaking his new campaign by the example of his brother in arms, the Duke of Malakoff.

Advices have been received from Hong Kong to the 29th December. Lord Elgin's flotilla, composed of five steamers and several gunboats, had proceeded up the river beyond Nankin. The object of his expedition was considered of so much importance that the French Ambassador and the Chinese Commissioners had delayed their departure from Canton, in order to await the result.

Canton was quiet. Our troops were healthy.

The *North China Herald* states that a newspaper published at Shanghai in Chinese by the missionaries has attained a circulation of 700. The people buy it week by week, paying cash, and each purchaser reads it aloud. The Chinese, it appears, are much interested in all local news, particularly police reports.

AUSTRALIA.

From letters addressed to the editor of the *Melbourne Argus* in the beginning of December last, we learn that a great amount of destitution existed in that town. A large number of persons, estimated at upwards of 200, were in the habit of sleeping nightly in the streets, with such shelter only as porticoes, arches, or house-eaves could afford. To such an extent, indeed, did the evil prevail, that the authorities were much puzzled as to how they should deal with it, and as a last, though rather a cruel resource, they contemplated apprehending all these outsleepers, and next day calling upon them in open court to show by what means they obtained their living. One of the writers to the *Argus* awoke one night forty-two of these unfortunate (who were, it is said, willing to work but could find no employment), and took the trouble to ascertain their trades and professions. Thirty were labourers and diggers, the others were chiefly mechanics, showing that in these instances, at any rate, the distress had not arisen from that cause to which so much of the misery in Australia is ascribed—the immigration of too great a number of the educated class and those who have not been accustomed to manual labour."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A Bavarian paper announces that the Bavarian Minister of War has given orders to place the different troops composing the Bavarian army on a war footing.

According to a report from Persia, the populace of Herat had expelled the English Commissioner.

The Continental journals state that the negotiations for a commercial treaty between Russia and Austria have been hitherto unsuccessful. It is reported that while Austria is willing to make every concession Russia refuses to lower the duty on some of the most important articles.

The public museums in Berlin were thrown open on the 30th ult., for the first time on a Sunday. The hours of admission were twelve and two o'clock. At the same time the New Museum, at whose doors hitherto an admission fee of 6*d.* was charged, was opened gratuitously like all other public collections in Berlin.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

BANBURY.

(From the *Morning Star*.)

This curious contest, which involved local and personal rather than any political considerations, has, after a severe struggle, resulted in the return of the local Liberal candidate by the smallest possible majority, namely, one.

At the commencement on Wednesday each party considered that it had a good chance of success, although some extraordinary contingencies were not unlooked for. For some time the candidates kept together on the poll. At half-past nine they were exactly equal, and at ten o'clock the return was as follows:—

Hardy	...	...	99
Samuelson	...	...	94
Miall	...	...	92

It was expected that the friends of Mr. Pigott would, on his retirement, support Mr. Miall, who could, with their help, have been returned. Some of them, however, in their disappointment at the withdrawal of their candidate, declined to take any further part in the contest, and others withheld their promised help until the conviction began to prevail that it was not possible for Mr. Miall, under existing circumstances, to win. Overtures were made from Mr. Hardy's committee to that of Mr. Miall for a mutual reserve of votes, in order to secure the rejection of Mr. Samuelson, but these were declined by Mr. Miall. The Roman Catholics gave their votes in a body to Mr. Samuelson, on the ground, as is understood, that Mr. Miall is a member of the Royal Commission on Education, in which their body happens not to be represented.

By twelve o'clock it became evident that Mr. Miall's supporters could not resist the strong personal and other local influences which now began to be exerted with marked effect on behalf of both Mr. Hardy and Mr. Samuelson, and from that time the struggle was between those two gentlemen. At one o'clock they each had 149 votes; at half-past two Mr. Samuelson was seven ahead; at half-past three, only two. During the last two hours the excitement was intense. Sick people were brought from their beds in blankets; voters, with whose whereabouts no one was acquainted, suddenly made their appearance; and there flew about reports of equivocal means resorted to, to obtain the last few votes which would decide the election. In fact, at three o'clock the belief was generally expressed that the result was simply a question of expenditure. At a quarter to four Hardy was ahead, and was thought to be so at the close; but on the mayor's declaring the numbers, they were found to be as follows:—

Samuelson	...	...	177
Hardy	...	...	176
Miall	...	...	118

It is felt by the advanced Liberal party in the town, that Mr. Miall has rendered to them an important service in coming forward with great reluctance, as he did, on the occasion, and he at least retires from the scene with the respect of all parties.

The number of registered electors is 538, and the actual number polled 471, a larger number than has been known at any previous election for this borough.

In a notice of the election which appears in the *Suffolk Chronicle* it is said:—"This narrow escape from the return of a Tory for Banbury is, it is alleged, due mainly to two circumstances—a strong local feeling against Mr. Samuelson, and his refusal, three weeks ago, to accept Mr. Miall's formal proposal, that the three Liberal candidates should abide by the result of a preliminary ballot, to which Mr. Pigott was prepared to accede. Had Mr. Miall yielded to his own feelings, by retiring at the eleventh hour, the return of Mr. Hardy, it is said, would have been a matter of certainty."

On Saturday Mr. Gladstone was unanimously re-elected member for the University of Oxford. He was proposed by the Provost of Oriel College, and the whole ceremony only occupied a few minutes.

Mr. Whiteside was elected on Saturday to supply the place of Mr. S. A. Hamilton, as M.P. for the University of Edinburgh. He delivered himself of a very heavy oration in eulogy of the constitution, the universities, and the Established Church.

If, unhappily (he said), any cause did exist which separated the great body of the Church from close action with the rulers of the State, he expressed the opinion of the excellent man who was now the depository of the power of the Sovereign when he said, that it should be the duty of the State to remove that cause

of disunion, and bind together Church and State, as having common objects to effect and common purposes to promote.

The election of Mr. Lever on Friday, was totally devoid of public interest, the speeches having reference only to the subject of the Galway Packet Station. Mr. Lever was proposed by the Rev. Peter Daly, and seconded by Mr. E. C. Burke. The new M.P. said that he should support any Government that would advance the interests of Galway as a packet station, and would oppose any Government that refused.

The West Riding election has been fixed to take place at Wakefield, on Monday, the 21st inst. Sir John William Ramsden is the only candidate in the field, and it is expected that his election will be unopposed.

The nomination of candidates for the seat vacated by Mr. Townsend took place at the hustings erected opposite St. Alphege Church, Greenwich, on Monday morning. Among those on the hustings was Sir M. Montefiore. Mr. Alderman Salomons and Mr. Angerstein were the candidates respectively proposed. The former obtained the show of hands over his opponent. Mr. Angerstein said he would support a 5*l.* franchise in boroughs, and a 10*l.* franchise in counties, and would oppose Mr. Bright's rating franchise. Mr. Salomons carries his Reform opinions to a much greater extent. He expressed his firm opinion that he should be returned by a large majority, and if so, he would not only look after their local interests, but support those great measures of reform which were demanded by the voice of the country.

Lord Ebrington is about to retire from Marylebone. The cause assigned for his resignation is his bad state of health, and his inability in consequence to take an active part in the discussion on the forthcoming Reform Bill.

The following circular has been sent to the returning officers of boroughs, apparently in anticipation of a general election:—

General Post-office, Feb. 9, 1859.

Sir,—I am to request that you will furnish the Postmaster-General with the address of your office for the reception of election writs, in conformity with the provisions of the Act 53 Geo. III., cap. 89.

I am, &c.,

ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

The Returning Officer for the —

We hope this notice will put Reformers everywhere on the alert, so that in the event of an election they may be prepared to bring forward candidates who are willing to go the full length of the constituencies on the question of Reform. We trust, also, that a pledge to vote for the ballot will be made a *sine qua non* with every candidate.—*Star*.

THE PAPER DUTIES.

On Friday a numerous deputation had an interview with the First Lord of the Treasury, at his official residence, Downing-street, for the purpose of presenting memorials from various branches of commercial industry injuriously affected by the present high duties levied upon the manufacture of paper. The deputation consisted of an unusually strong muster of members of Parliament, with representatives from the English Newspaper and Periodical Press Association, the Irish and Scottish Associations for obtaining the Repeal of the Paper Duty, the Society for the Abolition of Taxes on Knowledge, and from the manufacturers of Manchester, Birmingham, Yorkshire, &c.

Mr. M. GIBSON briefly said that the object of the deputation was to urge upon the serious consideration of the Government the necessity for the speedy repeal of the paper duty.

Mr. COLLETT, secretary for the Association for the Repeal of Taxes on Knowledge, then proceeded to read a memorial from the association, which stated that it was now ten years since the society he represented had been formed, to demand, on grounds of public policy, the abolition of taxes of a kindred spirit with that of the paper duties, and which had since been happily repealed. During that time, with scarce a single exception, no First Lord of the Treasury or Chancellor of the Exchequer had been found to defend the tax on paper. Last year the House of Commons had resolved that "the maintenance of the excise on paper as a permanent source of revenue would be impolitic," and that branch of the Legislature would shortly be called upon to give effect to their resolution. In submitting the matter once more to his lordship's attention, the association recurred with satisfaction to the promise of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to revise the whole system of taxation, and they trusted that to his lordship's Administration they might owe their relief from a tax which obstructed education, impeded commerce, hindered production, and was even injurious to that revenue, the maintenance of which was the only, but unwarrantable excuse for its continuance. This address was also accompanied with a memorial from the manufacturers and exporters of cotton wound, who complained that the duty levied on the pasteboard on which the cotton was wound for foreign markets was such as to amount to an export duty of five per cent.

Mr. VIZETELLY, on the part of the English Newspaper and Periodical Press Association, read a memorial, which pointed out that the paper tax pressed with the utmost severity on elementary works of education, as well as on all kinds of cheap literature, which was actually the staple food for the minds of the working classes. It was computed that in works of an expensive character, purchased by the

wealthier classes, the paper tax did not amount to more than from 1 to 2 per cent., while in cheap literature it was equal to nearly 25 per cent. Since the reduction of the duty from 3d. to 1½d. per lb. in 1836, down to the period when the compulsory stamping of newspapers was abolished, the annual circulation of newspapers in the United Kingdom rose from 39,000,000 to 95,000,000. Yet even at this largely-increased rate it was less than one-fifth of the annual newspaper circulation of the United States. The tax upon paper was a tax at once upon Government liberty and public responsibility.

Mr. CASSELL expressed his firm belief that if the duty on paper was repealed it would immediately tend to the advancement both of general learning and religion. The education of the masses depended chiefly on the spread of good and cheap literature among them.

After a few words from Mr. FRANCIS, Dr. GRAY said the Irish Association for the Repeal of the Duties on Paper numbered among its vice-presidents no fewer than forty-five members of Parliament, and an almost equal number, though declining to act as vice-presidents, entirely sympathised with the objects of the Association, and had expressed their warm wishes that its efforts might result in bringing about a repeal of the tax.

Mr. W. CHAMBERS presented the Scotch memorial, and urged, in support of it, not only the injustice of the tax altogether, but the inequality of its operation, which made the injustice worse. The great mass of the paper duty, it might be said, was principally levied on the cheap literature of the poor. A single work of the value of 50s. only paid tax to the amount of 7d., whereas 50s. worth of cheap literature—such, for example, as *Chambers' Journal*—paid duty to the amount of 3s. 1d.

Other memorials having been presented by Mr. Wright, from Birmingham, and Mr. Neill, from Yorkshire,

Lord DERBY said the present was not the first deputation he had received on the subject, and they were probably aware that on those previous occasions he had not concealed the objections he felt to the peculiar character of the tax. One argument, which had only been slightly touched upon by the deputation, was entitled to much weight, and this was that the interference of the Excise was calculated to stand in the way of improvements in the manufacture of paper. That was an objection to the tax well worthy of serious consideration. The real point, however, which he had to consider was whether, in the present financial position of the country, and looking to the obligations which the country had either undertaken or was prepared to undertake, it was at all probable, or even possible, that they could afford to dispense with a revenue equal to some 1,200,000l. per annum. It was a question on which it was improper for him to express an opinion, or to anticipate in any way the statement which his right hon. friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer would make to the country certainly within the next two months. All he could say was, that the state of the national finances was the only obstacle that stood in the way of relieving the country of a tax which he admitted to be an objectionable one, and one felt as a heavy burden. As he had told them, he was not in a position to state what the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be able to do, but he (Lord Derby) should certainly be much surprised and gratified if he learnt that his colleague would be able to remove any of the burdens of the country this year,—in fact, he might say he should be glad if there was no necessity for putting on new ones. He could only repeat what he had already said—that he considered the tax objectionable, but the financial condition of the country rendered its continuance necessary, for the present at least.

The deputation then withdrew.

THE REFORM QUESTION.

A great Reform demonstration was held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Tuesday night, under the auspices of the Northern Reform Union. The town throughout the day presented a scene of extraordinary excitement. Flags were waving, and bands of music playing, as though an election was about to take place. The meeting, both for numbers and enthusiasm, is represented to have been one of the most remarkable ever held in the town. There were at least 5,000 present. Mr. J. COWEN, jun., the treasurer of the association and its guiding spirit, said that, since the last meeting held in Newcastle, seventeen public meetings had been held at different places, at all of which, with two exceptions, local organisations had been formed.

The meetings had all been successful, and the Union's resolutions in favour of manhood suffrage and the ballot were adopted at each. The chief work during the last three weeks had been in collecting signatures to petitions in favour of the two points of their programmes. They had succeeded in getting petitions containing an aggregate of 40,000 names. (Loud cheers.) The petitions had not yet been all collected, but before they were sent to Parliament he had no doubt they would be able to say that they contained the names of fully one-half of the male adult portion of the two counties of Durham and Northumberland. While the majority of the names attached to the petitions were those of working men, a large proportion were the names of persons belonging to the commercial and professional classes.

This meeting, the speaker said, was a fitting finish to the last twelve months' work of the Northern Reform Union. P. A. TAYLOR, Esq., proposed the first resolution, expressing satisfaction at the increased interest manifested in the question of Parliamentary Reform by the leading statesmen of the empire, and the evident disposition of the most liberal of them to

yield in some measure to the popular demands, and declaring that no measure of reform that is not based on manhood suffrage and voting by ballot would give satisfaction to the people. In the course of an able speech he said they were pre-eminently indebted to Mr. Bright, who had done more than any other to rouse attention to the matter. Mr. Bright had in a bold and manly manner offered his bill to the country, and which formed a standing point from which to originate a discussion on the subject. Mr. CHARLES LARKIN seconded the resolution, which was also supported by Mr. STANSFIELD, of London, and carried amidst great cheering.

A Reform Conference is announced to be held at Glasgow on the 23rd inst. It will consist of delegates from one hundred towns and villages in the west of Scotland. In reply to a vote of thanks lately forwarded by the Glasgow Reform Committee, Mr. BRIGHT says,—

I hope there will be a cordial union among all classes of Reformers in favour of my bill, nothing but this can give us a chance of success. The conduct of the friends of a more extended suffrage than I propose gives me great hope that we shall have no division in our ranks, for this is essential to the success of any measure of the least value.

A bill which is equal in its concessions and restrictions—which views all classes of the people as citizens entitled to equal consideration before the law—is one which appeals powerfully, and I hope it will not appeal in vain, to the great population of your city.

On Wednesday a meeting was held at Reigate, on the representation of that borough in connexion with the new Reform Bill. Reigate now enjoys one member, and the meeting was convened for the purpose of protesting against its disfranchisement. A committee was appointed to watch the question.

An effective meeting has been held at Bolton, at which Mr. Bright's Bill received enthusiastic support.

The late Chancellor of the Exchequer made a few remarks on reform at the dinner of the Fishmongers Company, a few days ago, in replying to the toast, "The members of the late Administration." Sir G. C. LEWIS said:—

At the present moment a great measure of Parliamentary Reform was promised by the Conservatives, and the party of resistance was suddenly about to become the party of movement; the old Tory garrison was about to offer terms of capitulation to the force of public opinion at last. It would remain with the Parliament to say whether those terms would be accepted. He was sure there were some present round him who could remember the great reform struggle of 1831, and the almost unrelenting animosity and bitterness with which that contest was carried on. At the present day they saw that party which in 1831 had so strenuously opposed reform now loud with the cry that it had not gone far enough, and coming forward with strong promises that they would bring in another and a better bill of their own. He certainly trusted that they would be successful, and that the present Government would, as they ought, legislate in such a satisfactory manner as would give to the country in 1859 the liberal energy and vigour which had resulted from the Reform Bill of 1831.

Postscript.

Wednesday, Feb. 16, 1859.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

Their lordships met at five o'clock.

Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY asked whether her Majesty's Government intended to introduce any measure to relieve the shipping interest from passing tolls and burdens? Lord DONOUGHMORE stated that it was not the intention of Government to bring forward any measure on the subject.

Lord BROUGHAM, in presenting a petition from certain inhabitants of the island of Jamaica respecting the Cuba slave trade, spoke in terms of high praise of the Brazilian and Portuguese Governments for their efforts in suppressing that traffic. He contrasted the conduct of these two countries with that of Spain, and strongly condemned the latter for her systematic violation of treaties and evasion of her just duties.

Their lordships adjourned at a quarter past six o'clock.

In the House of Commons the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that although the Lord Chancellor, in appointing Mr. Higgins to a mastership of lunacy, had been convinced that the new functionary was thoroughly competent to fulfil the duties of that office, yet in consequence of the remarks that had been made on that appointment, Mr. Higgins had voluntarily determined to resign the office which had been conferred upon him, and to which his eligibility was so seriously impugned.

On a motion brought forward by Mr. TITE, a select committee was ordered to inquire into the operation of the laws relating to the care and treatment of lunatics, especially those so found by a coroner's inquisition. The HOME SECRETARY explained the tenor of two bills, for the introduction of which he intended to ask leave that evening, relating to the management of lunatic inmates in county and private asylums.

AMENDMENT OF BANKRUPTCY LAW.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in moving for leave to bring in a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to bankruptcy and insolvency, explained, in the first place, the reasons which had induced him to undertake a matter so difficult as well as so important. He then adverted to the relations of traders to their creditors, the origin of the bankruptcy law, the proceedings

under the old system, the changes introduced by Lord Brougham, and the institution of the Court of Bankruptcy. He next considered the general complaints made of the present system. The first complaint was the very great expense of the Court, 30 per cent. or more of the assets being consumed in the proceedings. He proposed to correct this evil by doing away with the absolute necessity of resorting to the official assignees, and by placing other expenses upon the Consolidated Fund. He then proposed to abolish the distinction between traders and non-traders, which had no real foundation, while it gave rise to difficult discussions, and to make the law applicable to bankrupts and insolvents alike. A single Court would introduce much greater economy and more uniformity of proceeding. He proposed, likewise, that the creditors should have the option of carrying the case before a County Court. Another evil of the existing system was the want of power to make voluntary settlements. Such settlements, it was true, were now much resorted to, but they had no sufficient authority or sanction, as in Scotland, and he proposed that when a majority of the creditors in number, their debts being four-fifths in value, agreed to a private arrangement, it should be lawful so to adjust the settlement. Another complaint was the uncertainty of the punishment for fraud, and for this the bill provided a remedy. It also abolished the different classes and grades of certificates. The bill was intended not only to amend, but to consolidate the law of bankruptcy—a matter of deep and vital importance.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, on the part of the Government, did not oppose the introduction of the bill. He doubted the policy of doing away with the official assignees, who were responsible officers appointed by the Court. He approved the abolition of the distinction between traders and non-traders; but he questioned the expediency of conferring upon the County Courts a co-ordinate jurisdiction with the Bankruptcy Court.

After some remarks by Mr. HEADLAM and Mr. MOFFAT leave was given to introduce the bill.

Mr. ALCOCK moved an address to her Majesty, praying that she will be pleased to issue a Royal Commission to inquire into and report as to the best means of abolishing the tolls on the turnpike roads and bridges in England and Wales. He was proceeding in his speech when the House was counted out at ten minutes past eight o'clock.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

The poll for the representation of Greenwich took place yesterday. Mr. Alderman Salomons kept ahead throughout. The following were the numbers at the close:—

Salomons	3,400
Angerstein	2,511

Majority... 889

As a new writ will be immediately issued to elect a successor to General Codrington, Mr. Angerstein will be a candidate for the next vacancy.

Yesterday, Baron Meyer de Rothschild was returned for Hythe unopposed. He delivered a speech reiterating his former declarations of Liberal opinions. His election makes the third member of the Jewish community now in the House of Commons.

Sir John Ramsden met his committee at Leeds on Monday. After he had delivered a modest speech various questions were put to him, which he answered satisfactorily. He stated that he should continue to vote for the Ballot and the entire abolition of Church-rates.

In connexion with the vacancy for Marylebone it is stated that a deputation has already waited upon Mr. Jacob Bell, but owing to this gentleman's distressing illness, he is reluctantly compelled to forego the honour of representing the constituency. Amongst other names mentioned have been those of Sir Joshua Walmsley, of Mr. Wilkinson, late member for Lambeth, and Mr. Josiah Wilkinson, member of the Metropolitan Board of Works for St. Pancras.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has fixed Friday next, Feb. 18, for hearing Mr. Poole's appeal, at the Palace, Lambeth.

The final quotations of the French Three per Cents. on the Paris Bourse yesterday evening were 67f. 75c. for money, and 67f. 70c. for the end of the month, showing a relapse of nearly five-eighths per cent. The fall is attributed to a variety of disquieting rumours.

I learn from a private source, in which I place confidence, that the Emperor is preparing tents, horses, arms, uniforms, &c., to take the field in person. I am as convinced as it is possible to be of any proposition not mathematically demonstrated, that his bosom burns with the ambition to command an army in actual warfare.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

The meeting of the Paris Conference is now considered certain, and will probably take place between the 22nd and 28th of February. There is little doubt that England will now join with France and Russia in confirming the double election of Colonel Courza.

MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat on offer in to-day's market was again very moderate; nevertheless, there was no activity in the demand. Compared with Monday, no change took place in prices. The condition of the samples was very middling. The show of foreign wheat was rather extensive; all kinds moved off heavily, at late rates. There was a good demand for malting barley, at full quotations. In other kinds, very little was doing. Rather more business was doing in oats, on former terms. Oats were in moderate supply, and fair request, at full prices. There was a fair inquiry for beans and peas, at fully Monday's prices. The flour trade was inactive.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1859.

THE BANBURY ELECTION.

TO THE READERS OF THE "NONCONFORMIST."

DEAR FRIENDS,—There are some misfortunes by which when a man is overtaken it is his wisest plan to go on his way, and bear with silent fortitude the consequences resulting from them. Such seemed to me to be my recent defeat at Banbury. Conscious of having been guided throughout by far other motives than those likely to be imputed to me, but hopeless of being able to clear myself without throwing discredit upon others, it was my intention to have allowed judgment to go against me by default, and to accept the penalty with such patience and cheerfulness as I could command. As, however, I see that some of the public prints are recklessly laying the lash upon the innocent, I feel that I should be guilty of a meanness which, I hope, is foreign to my nature, were I not to disclose enough to absolve them from all blame.

I beg, therefore, to say most distinctly that no one but myself is properly responsible for the line I pursued at Banbury. Mr. Bright, who has been falsely charged with sending me thither, urged upon me to withdraw at a very early stage of the contest. The London Reform Committee, with which both he and I are connected, took no part in the matter, but, so far as its leading members are concerned, their private influence discouraged my going to the poll. I, alone, am responsible—the more so, because, from first to last, I dreaded and anticipated the result that has ensued. Every step I took was taken in obedience to what appeared to me an obligation of honour—and every step I took was taken with the shrinking reluctance of a man going to the place of execution. I suffered my own judgment to be over-ruled by what was put before me (I have no doubt with the utmost sincerity) as trustworthy information. I did not believe it to be trustworthy—but I did not deem myself at liberty to ride roughshod upon the back of my own scepticism over statements that many earnest and truthful men agreed in representing as thoroughly reliable.

It may be asked, "If you had no confidence in your own success, why did you not, even at the eleventh hour, withdraw from the contest?" An easy question to ask after the event—not nearly so easy for me practically to solve before the event. I contemplated withdrawal as soon as I had paid my first visit to Banbury. I looked anxiously about me for a fitting opportunity of withdrawal—I proposed several measures, either to my competitors, or to my supporters, which I supposed would lead to my honourable withdrawal—and a week before the election I sent a letter to my Committee formally announcing to them my withdrawal. Why did I not adhere to my intention? Ask the man whose clothes have got entangled in machinery why he did not pluck them out before he lost his arm! I went to the poll because I conceived that in honour I could not help myself. Many gentlemen had worked hard day and night, and wholly at their own expense, to secure my return. They knew the borough. They knew the electors as neighbours. They had canvassed the constituency. They were again and again reminded of the interests at stake. They put before me, time after time, evidence the most positive that they would certainly return me—

that the Tory Candidate had not the slightest chance unless I should persist in retiring—that Mr. Samuelson was so distasteful to all parties as a Candidate that he could not win the election under any circumstances. Much of this evidence, it is true, I doubted—but I got other persons to look into it, and, after cool inquiry, they deemed my doubts unreasonable. At length, I surrendered my own judgment, not so much to the importunity of my supporters, although this was urgent enough, but to my own inability to find, in face of the statements put before me, an honourable way of retreat, and I removed from the path of my Committee their only remaining difficulty, by announcing my determination of going to the poll.

Within two or three days after yielding, I saw good reason for surmising that I had been dragged upon dangerous ground. It is useless to explain the state of parties, or, as I soon found, of factions, in Banbury. Such it was, however, that I was convinced that the safest chance for the return of a Reform candidate was for me to look defeat steadfastly in the face, and keep the field. Had I retired at the nomination, my conviction is that Mr. Samuelson would have been ousted by the Tory. Personal feuds, rather than politics, were uppermost, and no efforts of mine could have prevented some of my adherents, enraged by my withdrawal, from passing over to Mr. Hardy, in order to keep out Mr. Samuelson. A half-a-dozen such defections would have done the business. I have the comfort of reflecting that I prevented that disgraceful result.

I write this chiefly to exempt others from blame which does not attach to them, and partly to explain my motives. I cannot accuse myself of having neglected a single opportunity of getting out of this electoral wrangle—far less of seeking personal aims at the expense of public objects. I tried to act all through according to the promptings of my sense of what was honourably due to others. I made the mistake of allowing my own judgment to be set aside by evidence which I could not controvert, but which I did not trust. I do not ask to be exempted from censure—no one can censure me more severely than I do myself. But I ask that other people may not be credited with my blunder. I only am responsible—let the fitting penalty be mine.

I am, dear Friends,

Yours respectfully,

EDWARD MIALI.

35, Albert-square, Clapham-road.

SUMMARY.

THE war-cloud has, for the present, blown over. The peace of Europe is no longer menaced by hostile declarations either at Paris or Vienna. Of this satisfactory change we have now something like official assurance. In the debate on the right of search question in the House of Lords on Monday, the Earl of Malmesbury went out of his way to state that there was no longer any danger of war. "The speech which was recently spontaneously delivered by the able and powerful ruler of France to the French Chambers (said his lordship) tells us so upon the best authority, inasmuch as he from whose lips it fell is all-powerful either for peace or war. We have his assurance that tranquillity will be maintained"—an assurance in which our Foreign Minister is disposed to put faith.

Various collateral events strengthen the hope which Lord Malmesbury encourages. Had not Louis Napoleon abandoned, for the present at least, his warlike projects, M. de Morny, the President of the Legislative body, would scarcely have alluded in such pointed terms to the probability of success "in bringing about a pacific solution of all difficult questions." Indeed, if report speak truly, the preliminaries of negotiation with Austria have already been commenced, not with reference to the continued possession of Lombardy, but to the cessation of the military occupation of Central Italy. Not only is the Vienna Government prepared, it is said, to withdraw her troops, simultaneously with those of France, from the Papal States, but she has been prevailed upon by the English Government to consent to an arrangement, which it is hoped may lead to a convention with France for effecting the desired reforms in the Roman States. This agreement would not only be a test of French sincerity, but would deprive France of all excuse for maintaining a menacing attitude towards Austria. Our Ministers will have achieved all that can be expected of them in respect to Italy, if they can induce all the Great Powers to enter into a common stipulation, similar to that agreed to in the case of Turkey, that no State shall be at liberty to send troops into Central Italy without the agreement of the rest.

This is not the only difficulty that European diplomacy has yet to unravel. Lord Malmesbury told the House of Lords last week, that the Paris Conference is likely ere long to be resumed, for

considering the question of the government of the Danubian Principalities, complicated by the election of the same Hospodar for both provinces. There can be no question, that this election, if confirmed, will practically sever the Principalities from the dominion of the Porte. Another border province of Turkey is simultaneously engaged in throwing off the suzerainty of Turkey. The Servian popular Assembly have not only de-throned their late Prince, who was supported by Turkey and Austria, and replaced him by a partisan of Russia, but have discarded the Senate, and protested against the refusal of the Porte to recognise Milosch as hereditary Prince, as a violation of popular rights. How will the great Powers deal with these embarrassing events? Will they sanction the entry of Turkish troops into either of these three provinces, and thus suspend the resolution of the Conference of Paris; or, in their jealousy of such interference, will they suffer the sovereignty of Turkey to be set aside in three important outlying provinces of the Ottoman Empire?

Count Cavour, the self-constituted mouthpiece of Italian nationality, is going ahead too fast for an important section of the Piedmontese deputies. Though his project for a war loan was carried by a majority of two to one, the debate on the subject was calculated to give a check to the new policy of aggression which the King and his Minister, backed by France, have initiated. Thus the deputies for Savoy are unanimous in opposing measures which will, in their belief, endanger the constitution, and eventually annex that province to France. Thanks to the wholesome influence of the Parliament, the war fever in Sardinia is cooling down, and the French alliance is being regarded with increased suspicion.

On Friday last Lord Derby received an imposing deputation to urge that the repeal of the paper duties should form a feature in the forthcoming Budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. His lordship, while agreeing that the tax is unjust, injurious, and vexatious, held out little prospect that it could at present be dispensed with. It is to be feared from his language that there will not only be no remission of taxation, but that the public burdens will be increased. We have advanced so rapidly in the path of civilisation that an income of sixty-six millions no longer suffices for the national wants. While in 1835 the expense of the various national services was about fourteen millions, we could not last year do with less than double that sum. No wonder that, under such circumstances, public burdens should be increased—no wonder that the opponents of the paper duty and other obnoxious imposts find their efforts unavailing in face of this disagreeable fact! It is high time that England had a Reform Parliament to inquire into and repress the extravagance of the Executive sanctioned by the present House of Commons.

The Convocation of the clergy of the Province of Canterbury has been held during the past week. That antiquated body, apparently with the knowledge that its voice would be silenced till August next, has taken occasion to speak its mind on various subjects. While refusing to declare with Archdeacon Denison that, by the Divorce Act of last session, the law of the Church is placed at variance with the law of the State, it has resolved that that measure presses "hardly upon the clergy and ought to be amended," and claims "when changes are proposed affecting the ritual of the Church and the duties of the clergy, that the advice of the clergy should be taken upon it." Convocation would fain make the clergy synonymous with the Church of England—an assumption to which the laity in and out of the State Church are not very likely to assent. At one of the sittings the startling statement was made that in no less than 4,000 parishes, and to the value of a million and a half, the tithes are appropriated to other than religious purposes! It is, however, satisfactory to know that, whilst the State revenue of the Church is thus becoming secularised, voluntarism is more than making up the deficiency. It will be seen that the clergy of the province of York have not yet succeeded in obtaining the right to consult together; though some of the most daring have ventured on an illegal conference, in spite of the archiepiscopal interdict! Is not this "flat rebellion against lawful authority?"

We publish in another column some further correspondence relative to the premature suggestion of the Bishop of Adelaide for an amalgamation of all evangelical bodies in his diocese. The scheme has turned out to be that "pleasant dream," which his lordship anticipated. Not only do the pretensions of the Anglican Church forbid its realisation, but many of the Bishop's own clergy and flock protest against it; and Mr. Binney has shown, in a final letter, that it is simply a well-meant device for absorbing other sects into the Episcopal Church. To our think-

ing the common sense of Sir R. Macdonnell outshines the subtle reasoning of the clerical correspondents in this curious controversy. It appears that the discussion has extended to the adjoining province of Victoria, where the Bishop of Melbourne, who is a member of the Evangelical Alliance, has laid down for himself the reasonable rule, of avoiding all connexion with other Christian bodies, while he maintains, "as close a communion as circumstances permit with all Christian individuals."

"The Emperor Faustin I" has become an historical character. The Haytiens are too sensible a people to submit longer to a burlesque of Imperial institutions with a Boulogne as their embodiment. The revolution against the vulgar tyrant was a national affair. Not a drop of blood was shed, and the Emperor, by a stretch of magnanimity, was put on board ship without harm, instead of being tried as a criminal. On landing in Jamaica his sable Majesty was received by crowds of exiles, whom, in the zenith of his power, he had expatriated. They also it seems forbore to exult over his reverses. How inexplicable must such generosity be to a mean cowardly spirit!

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE beginning of a Parliamentary campaign is seldom very exciting. Of late years the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, has been little more than a formal interchange between the chief of parties, of comments upon what has occurred during the recess, and of views, very general and vague, of the political situation of the country. Foreign politics usually predominate on this occasion, after which they fall into obscurity. The chief interest in the House of Commons, for several days after the opening, lies in the notices of motions, and in the interpellations of ministers. One by one, the Government measures are introduced—those first which promise to be most useful, and about which here is likely to be the least discussion. It is, by far, the pleasantest part of the Session to the men in power, especially if they happen to have a tolerably full budget of practical measures. Night after night they get up and make the most conciliatory and flattering exposition possible of some good thing which they intend to do—and, inasmuch, as debate is commonly deferred until a bill has been introduced and read a first time, on which occasion compliments are more plentiful than criticisms, ministers get on quite swimmingly during the first fortnight or three weeks of the session. There is a geniality, too, about the tone of the House. The members are fresh from their holidays. Serious work has not begun. Late sittings are not yet necessary. Committee engagements are still in futuro. There is ample play for all the amenities of political life. The struggle of parties is yet afar off. Very pleasant and chatty are these first few nights of the campaign.

The reader, therefore, will not expect to be deeply interested in this our weekly record, until real political skirmishing has begun, or if he do, we fear he will be disappointed. Who is likely to care two straws about the progress of Mr. Walpole's Religious Services Bill, rendered necessary to adapt the Prayer Book to the order in council which dispensed with the religious observance of the anniversaries of the Gunpowder Plot, the martyrdom, as it is called, of Charles the First, the restoration of Charles the Second, or the landing of William the Third? Who can get up a graphic account of the introduction, by Lord Naas, of a bill to amend the laws relating to county prisons in Ireland? No! the thing is not to be done. No management of lights and shadows can make a lively picture of materials that are essentially dull and prosaic. We might, perhaps, make something out of the multitude of questions which have fallen upon the Treasury-bench like snow-flakes—like snow-flakes, too, to melt away and be forgotten. The difficulty would be to arrange them into anything like a harmonious group. Merely catalogued in the order of their sequence, we can imagine nothing more dreary or more useless. They attract very unequal attention in the House of Commons. They are barely tolerable in the reports of the daily journals. They cannot be introduced into a hebdomal sketch, save as here and there a single specimen may be inserted by way of relief or ornament. We shall, consequently, dismiss all notice of the new Foreign Office, its architect and his plans, the Salutation of the Host in Malta, and the mode in which that military ceremony has been explained away, the compulsory prepayment of letters and the bother it is exciting, Mr. Spooner's "Garden of the Soul," the opium trade, Government advertisements, rewards to Indian Princes, and a hundred other matters of a good deal less interest, on which questions have been asked, and shall confine our notice to the only two subjects of national importance that can be said to have emerged from obscurity during the past week.

The first of these relates to a question, often mooted during the Free-trade controversy, introduced to Parliament more than once, and in more shapes than one in later times, but hitherto only to be crushed out of existence by the great "lawyer interest"—we mean, the simplification of titles to landed estates. It is as difficult to transfer land in this country from one owner to another, as if the transfer of land were held to be a crime in the eye of the law. You cannot buy it without the intervention of lawyers, a great waste of time, and a serious addition to its cost—and when you have got it, you can neither borrow money on it, nor sell it again, without a repetition, upon a somewhat increased scale, of the original annoyance. The title, however good, however undisputed, however ancient—nay, more especially if good, unchallenged, and immemorial, has to be searched for, amid the lumber of by-gone times, and duly set forth in the deed of conveyance. The process was thought to be indispensable, until the famine in Ireland disclosed the absolute necessity of transferring half the overburdened property of the island to new owners. Then, at length, it came to be found, that an indefensible Parliamentary title so enhanced the value of land, that unencumbered as well as encumbered estates sought and obtained the benefit of the new law. The Solicitor-General, Sir H. Cairns, himself an Irishman, wishes to apply this modern discovery to the advantage of landed property in England, and on Friday evening he brought in a well-considered Bill to effect this object. He introduced it to the notice of the House in a lucid, comprehensive, and statesmanlike speech—and he is a very impressive speaker—and received from all quarters the most flattering praise. The *Times* looks upon the measure as scarcely second in importance to a bill for the reform of Parliament.

On Monday, Lord Stanley achieved a still more difficult task—he actually interested a tolerably full House in the question of Indian finance. His subject matter was gloomy—it has never been attractive—and he had to connect with it a proposition never very palatable—namely, a loan in the British money market of some considerable magnitude. He has few of the ornamental qualifications of an orator, and on Monday night his topic precluded any use of imaginative powers, even if he possessed them, which, to any remarkable extent, he does not. His exposition riveted attention because it showed a great and upright mind grappling in earnest with a weighty Imperial question. Lord Stanley's eloquence is the eloquence of a high moral standard. There is nothing meretricious, nothing flighty, nothing evanescent about it. It consists in the unaffected and forcible enunciation of truths which, having well considered himself, he is qualified to press upon the consideration of others. The man commands respect—and the speaker who reveals the man, never fails to interest. Beyond this, however, the speech of Monday night, lengthy as it was, and expository as much of it was of financial details, had a charm peculiar to itself—it wrote upon the dust of arithmetical figures a new Indian policy. We have adverted to this subject in the article below. To our minds, it is the most cheering indication which the Session has yet produced. Oh! if the Reform Bill to be introduced on Monday week do but resemble in breadth and solidity the financial policy shadowed forth for India—but we break off in the hypothetical speculation. Mr. Disraeli is not Lord Stanley. They are intimate friends, we believe—at least, they were once—would that they were more alike!

THE SWEET USES OF ADVERSITY.

LORD STANLEY'S masterly and luminous exposition of the state and prospects of Indian finance, on Monday night, will afford just that sort of satisfaction which may be realised by a judicious parent from a full and candid disclosure by his extravagant son of the pecuniary difficulties which have at length brought him to a stand. The actual figures look gloomy enough—the available resources show but little promise—the immediate exigencies to be met will impose grave inconvenience—but, on the whole, the position is one which is not irretrievable, and may even be contemplated with a feeling of relief. We shall not attempt, in this place, any analysis of the noble lord's statement. It is not quite so sombre in its hue as may well have been expected, although it is unquestionably serious enough to disturb the most placid temperament. We are afraid, moreover, that even he has thrown over it a brighter ray of hope than future events will fully justify. But, taking the picture at its worst, we are paradoxical enough to believe that it is in the lowest depth of India's financial difficulties that we may discover the most solid probability of India's future welfare.

We gather from the pervading tone, rather than from any explicit admissions, of Lord Stanley's speech, that the Indian Government have at

length become aware that the path in which they have walked for many years past will conduct them very speedily to hopeless insolvency and ruin. The point at which an inelastic income is overtaken by an increasing expenditure has been long passed, and annual deficits have become an all but inseparable concomitant of the "traditional policy." Heretofore, this very troublesome fact has been pushed aside, as far as possible, by speculative enterprises of the most questionable character—by means very analogous to what, in a private trader, would be called dishonest gambling. Instead of fairly developing the legitimate resources of their estate, the defunct East India Company were in the habit of looking round upon their neighbours, and contriving to equalise their revenue with their expenditure by seizing the estates of native potentates. The process, to say nothing of its immorality, scarcely answered even its pecuniary purpose. It rapidly augmented the income; it is true, but it also rapidly augmented the current outlay, and the permanent debt. It was a system of political kite-flying, which must come, sooner or later, to a disastrous end. The Punjab, Scinde, Pegu, Nagpore, Oude, having been successively absorbed into the Company's territorial possessions, without materially changing, unless from bad to worse, the aspect of Indian finance, it became evident that the "annexation" device must soon fail. But close upon the heels of this dilemma came the mutiny, its inevitable consequence, and, whilst temporarily dissipating some sources of income, and enormously increasing present expenditure, has added to the debt some twenty millions sterling. At this point, the Indian Government have been compelled to pull up and fairly meet the question, "What is to be done?"

The answer, on the face of it, is not reassuring. The balance between annual income and outlay cannot easily be restored by ordinary methods. The Indian Government cannot do much, at least at present, by large retrenchment. The noble Secretary informs us that economy carried to the utmost limits compatible with efficiency of administration, will yield no reduction in the Civil department worth calculating upon. We think it far more likely that, even with a wiser and more economical distribution of expenditure under this head, good government will be likely to require a larger rather than a smaller annual sum. Nor is it possible, we are told, just now, to diminish the enormous cost of the military department. But here, happily, as we think, lies our sole hope of future retrenchment in India. We can only lessen, to any material extent, our annual outlay in that territorial dependency, by greatly curtailing the proportions of the army. It is in this direction that reform must begin, if it is to begin at all. The pet instrument of Government with the extinct Company, must be rendered less and less necessary, forasmuch as it is found to be ruinously costly. It will not pay to govern India by the sword alone. Well, this is, so far, an encouraging discovery. Exclusive reliance upon an army, European or native, or mixed, is found to be financially, as well as politically and morally, an expensive blunder. It is almost worth a mutiny to have made that patent to Indian statesmen. Much, very much more will come of it than the merely saving of money.

Turning now to that branch of our Indian finance which relates to future income, the prospect is scarcely more enlivening. Three-fifths of the revenue is derived from the land tax, or, as some would call it, the rent of the estate. This, so far as the present occupancy is concerned, must be regarded as inexpensive. In Bengal, the zemindary settlement was made in perpetuity. In the north-west provinces, the village settlement was fixed for a period of thirty years. In Madras, the ryots have been already screwed up to the highest pitch of tension. Taxation, therefore, has touched its extreme limit in this direction. One-fifth of the revenue of India is yielded by opium—an extremely fluctuating and even precarious source of income—less reliable than ever now that China has legalised the traffic, and will probably grow a large proportion of what is needed for her own supply. No large increase from the remaining taxes can be calculated upon, and the idea of imposing upon a people related to the Government by no peculiar tie any new taxes, presents difficulties too formidable to be encountered. How, then, is the annual excess of expenditure over income to be extinguished? This is the problem—and in Lord Stanley's solution of that problem lies the sole hope for India.

The noble Secretary repudiates further annexations. He disclaims all intention of increasing his resources by the miserable shift of picking holes in existing titles to estates, or, in other words, of confiscation. He sees no hope in augmenting the pressure of taxation. But he does not despair. He turns from these bad, wasteful, and exhaustible, if not exhausted, sources of national revenue, to those which are more legiti-

mate, fertilising, and inexhaustible. The reclamation of waste lands by the initiation of a better system of tenure, the opening-up of the country by good roads, railroads especially, the enriching it by works of irrigation, the promotion of its commerce by suitable harbours and piers,—in a word, the encouragement by Government of the application to the now buried wealth of the Eastern peninsula, of capital, skill, and industry—constitute the ground of his reliance on the future financial prosperity of India. His present outlay may be large—but then it will be reproductive—will be associated with the well-being of the native population—will probably remove causes of domestic disquietude—and, after awhile, will render unnecessary the maintenance of an immense army. This is the kind of enterprise on which Lord Stanley is intent. There is nothing showy about it—no political clap-trap—not the least delusion whether brilliant or dull. He aims to fill his exchequer, slowly, it may be, but surely, by opening into it a perennial and increasing source of supply which, instead of draining India to the utmost, will overflow in blessings upon its populous races.

To enable him to accomplish this, it will be necessary to put his present finances into something like settled order. He must arrange matters with his banker, that he may not be dragged down by arrears of embarrassment. He therefore asks a loan—and promises it shall be the last—of seven millions sterling from the money market at home, to be secured, of course, on Indian revenue. Well, we are not disposed to regret his necessities. The existing plethora of capital in this country had far better be relieved by absorption in India, than by loans to European despots anxious to plunge into dynastic wars. The noble lord will, no doubt, get the accommodation that he wants, and, we hope, on moderate terms. For our own part, we derive, as we have already intimated, more hope for India in the desperate financial straits of her Government, than we could have done from a full exchequer. This is the first time in the history of British India in which the wants of the ruling power compel a careful study of the true wants of the governed. Even now, disappointment may be in store for us—and what Lord Stanley nobly aims at accomplishing, the next Secretary for India may set aside as too troublesome. But, at least, it is gratifying to see one of our statesmen setting his face in the right direction. His example will render it difficult for his successors to return to the old paths of war, annexation, extortion, and waste.

M. GIRARDIN'S PAMPHLET.

M. EMILE GIRARDIN has, in his time, played many parts. For many years during the revolutionary period, in his influential journal, the *Presse*, the gifted but erratic Frenchman did his best to secure the liberties of his countrymen on a firm basis, and by the vigour of his pen so embarrassed General Cavaignac during his dictatorship, as to bring down upon himself the vengeance of the Executive. For some weeks during that troublous period, the editor of the *Presse* was effectually silenced by being put into prison. On the accession of Prince Louis Napoleon to the Presidency, M. Girardin threw all his energies into the peace movement. Many of our readers may not have forgotten his eloquent orations at the Peace Congresses of Paris and Frankfurt in favour of the reduction of standing armaments, and the settlement of international disputes by arbitration, and the sensation created in those assemblies by his fervid denunciations of that warlike policy which eats up the resources of European States. His restless spirit, unable to endure the rigour of the Imperial censorship, retired for awhile from the public stage. The *Presse* was sold to more pliant supporters of the dominant power, and M. Girardin became a private citizen.

This state of inaction did not, however, suit the active temperament of the distinguished journalist. M. Girardin, impatient of that position of isolation which the distinguished statesmen of France have with so much dignity and self-sacrifice maintained throughout the eight years of Imperial despotism, made his peace with the Government, accepted the livery of a Councillor of State, and attached himself to the fortunes of Prince Napoleon. But after all, his nature loathes a position of tame subservience. He must be continually creating a sensation in society, and showing his independence by pursuing a comet-like course. "Better to reign in Hell than serve in Heaven" would appear to be the motto of this able but unprincipled writer. *Aut Caesar, aut nullus*. His inordinate vanity finds more satisfaction in the notoriety obtained by pursuing what is bad and startling, than what is true and common-place. Hence, we take it, his pamphlet, "*La Guerre*," which has been a nine-days' wonder in Paris.

The former advocate of disarmament is now all

for utilising the vast armies which the Emperor has at his disposal. If war is felt to be an "absolute necessity" for France, he would not be satisfied with so paltry an aim as the emancipation of Italy from Austrian rule. He would prefer to see a general war carried on by the aid of a Russian alliance against England and Germany, for the purpose of avenging Waterloo and founding two grand empires—the Empire of the West for France, and the Empire of the East for Russia. "Either war with its conquest, or peace with its progress," exclaims M. Girardin—a covert mode of insinuating that if the Emperor elects to pursue a pacific policy he must rule by enlarging the liberties of his subjects.

But amid all his wild ravings, the clever Frenchman has the knack of uttering much sterling sense. His brochure, however bellicose in spirit, has at least the merit of exploding the grand and elaborate scheme developed in the Imperial pamphlet for creating a confederation of Italian States with the Pope at its head. Rather non-intervention, "peace and its progress," than such an imposture. So far M. Girardin unquestionably represents the feelings of his countrymen. It may be that the gifted writer, under cover of a wild proposal for a general war to re-arrange the map of Europe, only intended to avail himself of a fitting opportunity to cast ridicule and contempt on the Imperial scheme of a war for Italian liberation.

Looking at the pamphlet, however, as a serious demonstration, how completely it unfolds to us the foul and murky atmosphere that pervades the "ante-chambers" of the Imperial court! Girardin has thrown in his lot with the stock-jobbers and adventurers that infest the purlieus of the Tuileries and the Palais Royal. His pre-eminent mental endowments are now prostituted to intriguing purposes—the apostle of peace has become the advocate of war—the eloquent asserter of great principles now panders to the buried prejudices of 1815, and surpasses the greatest zealots of Imperialism in his ravings for the extension of a civilisation which has brute force alike for its foundation, and crown. We must have recourse to Milton's *Comus* to find a fit parallel for so monstrous a transformation. But it is most ominous that, while the peace pamphlet "*Aurons-nous la Guerre*" has been suppressed, such balderdash mingled with causeless denunciations against England, as M. Girardin's, should be allowed freely to circulate in France. Are these the ideas with which Prince Napoleon proposes to indoctrinate the Court of Turin with which he is now closely allied?

THE JAMAICA IMMIGRATION SCHEME.

It is evident from the debate yesterday week in the House of Lords, that the bills passed by the Jamaica Legislature will receive her Majesty's consent, unless petitions are sent in in such numbers, and so generally signed by Christians of all denominations, as to convince the Government that, if Lord Derby has changed his mind since he induced the people of England to pay twenty millions of money to put an end to slavery, they have not. Has Lord Derby examined these bills? Does he know that they treat the immigrants as chattels; that their indentures are to be transferred from hand to hand or estate to estate? Does he know that a bounty of five pounds a-head is offered for them in Africa? If the planters of Jamaica or Guiana may offer £5, why may not the Americans, or Cubans, or French, offer £10? What right shall we have to seize cargoes of slaves if, when they come into our colonies, they are to be fastened as chattels on particular estates, and their indentures bought, sold, or transferred from one to another?

It has been computed that directly and indirectly thirty millions of money have been taken from the people of England to put down slavery. To put it down a second time, if these bills become law by consent of her Majesty, will cost fifty millions at least, even if it should be possible to effect it.

Are the Christian people of England ready to allow that? But now or never is the time to prevent it. There is not a day to lose. The next packet's despatches will be made up to-day. Will it convey the bills accepted, or will Lord Derby pause until they have been printed, with the correspondence about them, for the consideration of Parliament? We hope for the best, but if otherwise—the day of reckoning will come. A speedy dissolution of Parliament is looked for. Let no man vote for a supporter of Lord Derby's Government until their chief has shown that he holds in some respect the opinions and feelings of the Christian people on this subject. From some cause or other the Anti-Slavery feeling of this country has been somewhat lulled of late years. The freedom of the West Indian labourers had been considered as a thing settled for ever, and it was

supposed that the planters themselves had admitted the impolicy as well as injustice of the old system. It is now quite evident that we were mistaken. A fresh supply of chattels is demanded from China, the East Indies, and Africa, with the avowed purpose of making the present race of labourers so absolutely dependent as to work on sugar estates at a lower rate of wages than it would cost to purchase and maintain slaves for life. And why? Because sugar is now so profitable, and the market so extending as to require larger supplies. Why not then give the labourer a proportionate advantage in the shape of wages? It is asserted that the offer of 18d. for nine hours good work every day except Saturdays and Sundays, would bring fifty thousand fresh labourers into the field in Jamaica alone. Now fifty thousand labourers would, after the first year, make at least two hundred thousand hogsheads of sugar, which is a greater increase of supply than the market requires. To enable the estate-owners to increase their profits some ten per cent. the people of England are asked to consent to legislative measures, which will render it impossible to check the slave trade and slavery in other countries. The African squadron will of course be withdrawn; the legitimate commerce now extending in Africa under its protection checked; the aims of Livingstone and the missionaries will be frustrated; and the character of England as the patron and protector of freedom irremediably tarnished. It is clear that nothing can prevent this but an immediate and energetic movement on the part of the true friends of the anti-slavery cause in every city, town, and hamlet of the empire.

Surely there must be one tried and faithful friend to freedom in every place who will take the trouble to copy out a petition to her Majesty not to consent to these bills without further inquiry. No doubt the feeling of the country is strongly against the encouragement of slavery, but it can only be expressed in the form of a petition in order to meet the Royal ear. Let application be immediately made to every Christian man and woman in every place for signatures to such petitions; let them be forwarded to the county or borough members without delay, and the cause of freedom may once more triumph. We repeat, however, there is not an hour to lose.

Brixton, Feb. 14, 1859.

B.

THE GOVERNMENT REFORM BILL.

(From the *Scotsman*.)

Unless important alterations are made between this time and the introduction of the measure, the Ministerial Reform Bill will be based on the following propositions:—

A burgh franchise of 6*l.* rated value—which is the proposal of Lord John Russell's Bill of 1854, and is (or was) equivalent to about 7*l.* 10*s.* of real value, or actual rent.

A county franchise of 10*l.* rated value—which is also the proposal of Lord John Russell's Bill, except that Lord John did not in his speech specify that the value was to be the rated one.

The grouping, instead of the disfranchisement of many of the existing small burghs.

The creation of new burghs in groups, by transforming into burghs small towns and villages now forming parts of the county constituencies.

The disfranchisement, as to counties, of freeholders qualifying on property within burghs—probably with a provision allowing them, as an exceptional class, to vote for the burghs within which the property is situated.

(From the *Morning Star*.)

So much has been said about Government yielding a permissive Ballot, that doubts about that point are now scarcely allowable.

(From the *Daily News* of yesterday.)

Last night the Chancellor of the Exchequer made another announcement—the third within a fortnight—of the intentions of the Government respecting the Reform Bill. The measure is to be brought forward on the 28th inst.—next Monday week. It is to be a bill not only "to amend the laws relating to the representation of the people of England and Wales," but also "to facilitate the representation and voting of electors." How is the voting of electors to be facilitated? Have Lord Derby and his colleagues resolved to adopt the ballot? Hardly that; we are left, therefore, to infer that some device for turning that question—possibly that of voting papers—is to be brought forward. In such a project they may expect to receive the support of all who wish to see the representatives of England returned by the *pococuranti*, the idle, and the superannuated; those, however, who desire that members of the House of Commons may represent the vigour and vitality of the country will strenuously oppose such a proposition.

It is understood that certain Chambers of Commerce have resolved upon sending competent agents to India, to examine and report upon various matters relative to the growth of cotton. They are to ascertain what commercial difficulties have to be removed, or facilities to be discovered; and to act for their principals as circumstances may require.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

On Thursday, Earl St. GERMAN inquired whether, in the opinion of the Foreign Secretary, the recent election of one person to fill the office of Hospodar for both the provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia was not inconsistent with the letter as well as the spirit of the convention lately entered into at Paris?

The Earl of MALMESBURY repeated in public the statement he had already made in private to the noble earl—namely, that any reply to the query might prove just now inconvenient to the public service, since it was more than probable, indeed nearly certain, that the Conference would again assemble in order to determine the interpretation of several clauses in the convention.

THE WINDING-UP ACTS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR introduced on Thursday another measure of law reform—a bill for the incorporation, regulation, and amendment of the acts for winding up joint-stock associations. The main object of this bill is consolidation. It will enable all companies, whether having a share capital or not, to take advantage of the act to be registered, to become incorporated, and to have facilities for winding up in case of necessity. The bill will embrace mutual building companies, mutual loan societies, mutual insurance companies; companies limited and unlimited; and intermediate companies—namely, companies where the shareholders guarantee, in the event of the winding up of the concern, to contribute a certain amount beyond their shares for the purpose of the liquidation. In short, the bill is a consolidation of all the provisions contained in all the former acts, and included every description of company.

STATE OF IRELAND.

On Friday, the Earl of LEITRIM moved for some returns respecting recent assassinations in Ireland. Lord MONTAGUE commented upon the renewal of political conspiracies and criminal outrages in that country, and drew various disparaging inferences as to the conduct of the police and social condition of Ireland generally. The Earl of DUNGANNON vindicated the police, and combated the conclusion that had been arrived at touching increase of criminality in Ireland. The Earl of DESART remarked upon the rapid and almost miraculous improvement which Ireland had experienced during the last few years. Those who had been absent from the country for ten years would, he said, on their return now, hardly know it again. The motion was then withdrawn.

THE MILITIA.

Earl GREY asked when the report of the Militia Commission would be presented, and whether the Government intend to make any changes in that branch of the service? Lord HARDINGE said to the first question that he did not know; to the second that Lord Grey could hardly expect an answer. Lord GREY expressed his regret that there was no prospect of an effective reform in the Militia, and added some sharp comments on its inefficiency, expense, and inferiority to regular troops. He also called in question the fitness of the Commission for the investigation intrusted to it, and attacked the practice of putting the Government into Commission. The Earl of DERBY said, that last session Lord Grey approved of Commissions of Inquiry. The Premier defended the Militia as a powerful auxiliary force. We have seventy-five battalions in India, and if the Militia is abandoned we must largely increase our regular force. Earl GRANVILLE took up and enforced Lord Grey's complaint to the reference of so much to Commissions.

There are six or seven in the war and navy offices. With respect to the Colonial-office the only difficult point at present had reference to the Ionian Islands, and in a manner hardly legal, and if legal, yet in an extraordinary way, a commissioner had been appointed in respect to that matter, who had extensive powers from the Government and the noble earl at the head of the Government, when applied to for information on the subject, said he should leave the matter entirely in the hands of the gentleman who had been appointed commissioner, who, when he came back, would explain all the steps he had taken. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) It was the sincere desire of the country to transfer the Government of India to the Crown, but, as had been already mentioned, the question of the future organisation of the Indian army had likewise been referred to a commission. He believed that a subject connected with the Home-office, which the late Government thought might be satisfactorily disposed of by the Secretary and Under-Secretary, had been referred to a commission, and that upon the shoulders of the same commission had been thrown nearly half the business of the Home Department. He confessed, however, that he did not find so much fault with this practice of referring subjects to commissions as his noble friend, because his confidence in the present Government was not such as to lead him to believe that they did not require all the extraneous assistance they could possibly obtain. (A laugh.) He believed the country would derive considerable advantage from the fact recently stated by a friend of his, that, in matters of public business, there were few members of Parliament who had not a greater responsibility than her Majesty's Government. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.)

The discussion was closed by an invitation given to Lord Grey by the Duke of RICHMOND to give evidence before the Militia Commission. Earl GREY would be glad to place all the information in his possession at the disposal of the noble duke.

THE RIGHT OF SEARCH.

On Monday Lord WODEHOUSE asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to lay on the table copies of the correspondence between her Majesty's and the United States' Governments in respect to the right

of search. He called attention to a despatch of General Cass, in which, without proposing any plan of his own, he said that no right of search to verify the flag could be permitted.

Lord MALMESBURY had no objection to lay the correspondence before the House. It would then be clear that he had not surrendered any British privilege. The right of search arose at a time when our navy was irresistible, and was the only navy that could suppress the slave trade. But the right of search was not founded on right, and was unsupported by international law. As soon as France had rebuilt her navy she refused our right of search, and America followed her example. We had held out too long. But, if we had been inclined to run into one extreme, the Americans had run into the other, for they had denied that any such right of verifying the flag existed. That opinion had been subsequently modified, for General Cass had explained that a search might now and then be justified, but it must always be at the risk of the searchers, and that when exercised fairly no Government could complain. He informed the House that an identical code of signals had been established between the French and English Governments which he hoped would be adopted by the United States. Assurances had been received from the United States of a sincere desire to suppress the slave trade, and a proposal for adopting a more efficient system had been forwarded from America.

Lord CLARENDON denied that the late or former Governments had claimed a right of search in time of peace. Such a course would be contrary to international law. He thought that we ought to have some means of verifying the nationality of a vessel. But a code ought to be universal, and not confined to the three chief maritime Powers. Lord ABERDEEN read a despatch which he had written twenty years ago, when he was Foreign Secretary, by which he showed that the principles at present laid down were those of former Governments, and not so novel as represented. Lord CARLISLE thought the principles laid down by the Government just, and hoped that the identical code of signals would be put in practice as soon as possible. Lord DERBY said that no one contended that this country, or any other, had a right to board a ship, but no one denied our right to ascertain the nationality of a ship. An understanding, he hoped, would be arrived at between the French, English, and American Governments, to verify the nationality of vessels. Lord BROUGHAM pointed out the absurdity of the doctrine that no cruiser had a right to stop a vessel unless she bore the same flag.

The report of the amendments on the Law of Property and Trustees Relief Amendment Bill was adopted.

Their Lordships then adjourned at half-past 6 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

GOVERNMENT MEASURES.

On Thursday Sir J. PAKINGTON, in reply to Lord John Russell, appointed Friday, the 25th inst., as the day on which he would bring forward the navy estimates.

In reply to Mr. Hankey, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said there was not at present the slightest foundation for the report that it was his intention to deal with the sugar duties.

AMENDMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAW.

Mr. CROSS moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to municipal elections. The existing provisions for preventing bribery at these elections, he observed, were a dead letter, chiefly owing to the severity of the penalty. He proposed to substitute a small penalty and a summary remedy.

After a few remarks in favour of the object of the bill by Sir G. Pecheil, Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. Kidley, and Mr. Griffith, leave was given.

STATUTE LAW COMMISSION.

Mr. LOCKE KING moved for returns showing the amount of money voted for the Statute Law Board and Statute Law Commission, since their first establishment to the present time. The commission, he observed, had sat several years, drew large sums of money, and, so far as he was aware, done no good whatever.

The HOME SECRETARY readily promised the returns, with a slight alteration. With regard to the performances of the Statute Law Commission, he believed that the commissioners had collected a vast deal of very useful information, on which Parliament might safely act. Considering the difficulty and expense of carrying on the work, however, and thinking also that it would be better to act on the information already obtained, before collecting more, it was under consideration by the Government whether the commission should not now be closed and suspended and the country relieved from further expense on its account. The right hon. gentleman further announced that a series of bills were about to be introduced by the Attorney-General for England, which would contain not merely a consolidation, but a most careful revision, not only of the English, but also the Irish statutes relating to the criminal law. The alteration which would be made by this series of bills—which would be submitted to the House that day se'nnight—would, he believed, effect an immense improvement in the statute law of the country.

COUNTY PRISONS IN IRELAND.

Lord NAAS brought in a bill to amend the laws relating to county prisons in Ireland. This measure repeals existing acts and consolidates the prison law of Ireland into one act. One object is to improve the condition of bridewells, which at

present are "horrible places," and to provide proper gaol accommodation generally. The bill was read a second time.

"THE GARDEN OF THE SOUL."

Mr. SPOONER on Friday asked the Secretary of State for War, whether the "Garden of the Soul" was issued to any soldiers in the British army by authority of the Secretary of State for War; and whether that book was purchased and distributed at the cost of the State?

General FREL said, that the "Garden of the Soul" was the Prayer-book of the Roman Catholics. A certain number were therefore distributed to the Roman Catholic soldiers, and it followed that a portion of this work was purchased and distributed at the cost of the State. He had made no alteration whatever in the practice of the War-office on this subject. The sum of 2,000*l.* was voted every year for the distribution of religious books to the army, and a certain proportion of this grant was devoted to the Roman Catholic soldiers. The vote in question appeared in the estimates, and the hon. gentleman could object to it when the Army Estimates were before the House.

PREPAYMENT OF LETTERS.

Mr. RICH then called attention to the order of the Postmaster-General of the 27th ult., directing, in effect, that after the 10th of this month all letters which are not prepaid should be opened by the Post Office authorities; and inquired what provisions had been made thenceforth to guard the inviolability of letters sent through the Post Office.

Sir J. NORTHCOKE observed that the step had been taken solely from considerations of public convenience. Its operation would be carefully watched, and any modification that experience might suggest forthwith adopted. At present it was found that out of 530,000,000 letters annually sent through the inland post-office, 2,500,000 were unpaid, and of these fully 60 per cent. were transmitted merely for purposes of annoyance. On each 14th of February there were on the average 800,000 Valentines posted, about 60,000 of them were refused, and found their way to the Dead Letter Office, when they proved with scarcely an exception to be of a frivolous and vexatious character. There was, he added, no danger of any violation of secrecy through the opening of letters in the Post-office, that operation taking place only at the central establishments in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, where it was intrusted to a select corps of confidential clerks.

Mr. RICH will, on the 22nd inst., take the sense of the House on the order of the Postmaster-General requiring the prepayment of letters.

THE NEW FOREIGN OFFICE.

In reply to Mr. Tite, Lord JOHN MANNERS explained the steps which had been taken by the Government with reference to rebuilding the Foreign-office in Downing-street. The selection of the architect was governed by the choice of a site. The three first prize designs stood upon a par. There is no preference between the contending style of national and foreign, Gothic or Italian. Mr. Scott was chosen to erect the Indian office, and the Government have asked him to draw new plans for the Foreign Office to suit altered circumstances.

Sir BENJAMIN HALL objected to Gothic designs; Mr. BERNESFORD HOPE stood forward as the champion of Mr. Scott and Lombardo Gothic. Mr. CONINGHAM entered his solemn protest against the use of Gothic architecture in public offices.

General THOMPSON suggested that the whole matter should be postponed until the bill from India came in, and it was seen how much money we had to spare for such purposes. It was far from certain that we were not on the eve of an European war, and he should be very pleasantly surprised if England managed to keep her hand out of it.

Lord PALMERSTON said Mr. Scott seemed to have been chosen because he was second in all the competitions, which was like giving the cup to the horse that runs second in two heats. The Gothic is chosen as the "national style;" he supposed the Secretary for India would be lodged in a pagoda or tadjmahal.

All the buildings in connexion with Downing-street are of a totally different style. There are the Treasury buildings, the Horse Guards, the Admiralty, the Banqueting-house, which is one of the finest specimens of architecture to be found anywhere. (Hear, hear.) That is to be confronted by a building which, by-the-by, does not, after all, answer the description of the noble lord, who talks of a "national style," for it appears that it is not to be English Gothic, but Italian, or Lombardo Gothic. I have not had the advantage of visiting those climes lately, therefore I don't know exactly what the peculiarities of Lombardo Gothic are, but it combines, I suppose, all the modifications of barbarism. (Laughter.) Look, too, at that street of palaces, Pall-mall, with all its magnificent clubs, each one handsomer than the other. Take St. Paul's and Somerset-house, I will venture to assert that they are handsomer in their respective ways than Westminster Abbey or the Houses of Parliament. (Hear, hear.) The Houses of Parliament are a beautiful building, but I think we have made a mistake in point of expense and accommodation. (Hear, hear.) But because we have made a mistake—a handsome mistake, I admit, in effect and fact too—are we committed for ever to go on raising building after building in a style totally unsuited to the purposes in view? I do hope that the decision of the noble lord is not irrevocable.

Mr. BENTINCK agreed with the gallant member for Bradford as to the inexpediency of spending large sums of money under present circumstances on ornamental architecture. Until the country was put into a perfect state of defence it was the duty of Parliament not to sanction the expenditure of a single shilling that could be spared on such purposes as this. More especially was this their duty if there were any truth in the painful rumour that, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward

his budget, the House would be called upon to supply an inevitable deficiency.

REWARD TO INDIAN PRINCES.

Mr. V. SMITH asked the Secretary of State for India whether any reward or mark of honour had been conferred upon those native princes or their Ministers who have proved faithful to her Majesty during the late Indian mutiny?

Lord STANLEY remarked that recent events had thoroughly proved the wisdom of those authorities who had counselled the maintenance of the native sovereignties and showed the impolicy of annexation. Many of the native princes had rendered valuable services during the revolt, several of whom had received rewards, either in money, land, or honorary dignities. Communications were still taking place and evidence collecting with the view of extending the services.

TITLES TO LANDED ESTATE.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL moved for leave to bring in a bill to simplify the title to landed estates. After a general review of the state of the law of real property, and the evils, including the depreciation of its value, owing to the want of a simplification of titles, he proceeded to consider in detail the nature of the evils, which were mainly two. The first evil attending the transfer of land was the length of time which elapsed between the making the bargain and the completion of the purchase, and the expense attending the investigation of title. The other evil was that, when the estate was bought, if money were to be raised upon its mortgage, the same investigation was necessary, the same delay and expense were incurred, and repeated should the estate be offered for sale. These were the salient evils to which landed property in this country was exposed. In Ireland the Landed Estates Court had been empowered to give relief in the case of unencumbered as well as encumbered estates, and to give a Parliamentary title in the case of the former as well as the latter, and this change had not been found to work injustice to individuals. Looking at the facilities afforded by this Court, compared with the dilatory and expensive process of investigating titles in England, he asked why a system so beneficial to one country should not be applicable to the other, and he contended that there were no valid reasons which should deter the Legislature from applying a part of the Irish system to England. He then proceeded to give a general outline of the provisions by which, under this bill, owners in fee simple of land, or persons having the power to dispose of the fee simple of land, and who had been in possession for five years, might come to a court and obtain a declaration of title, which should be efficacious for certain purposes. He proposed to provide a safeguard or check, not given in Ireland, enabling parties interested to lodge a caution or caveat in the court prior to a declaration of title. It was proposed that the Court should consist of two judges, with salaries of 3,000*l.* and 2,500*l.* a-year. The SOLICITOR-GENERAL then proceeded to explain the provisions of a subsidiary measure for a registry of titles, enabling a person having a declaration of title to put his name on the register as the person entitled to transfer the estate, subject to any caveat, which might be of either of two kinds, the nature and effect of which he explained. He proposed that this registry should be in London, and that, as well as the Court, it should be to a certain extent self-supporting.

Sir R. BETHELM expressed his thanks to the Government for the introduction of this measure, and the great pleasure with which he had listened to the admirable and lucid speech of the Solicitor-General. Mr. LOWE said the measure reflected the highest honour upon the Government. Mr. MALINS, admitting that it was most desirable to simplify titles, thought there were more practical difficulties in his way inherent in titles than the Solicitor-General anticipated.

Leave was given to bring in the bill, and a bill to establish a registry of landed estates.

THE MINISTERIAL REFORM BILL.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER on Monday gave notice that on Monday, the 28th instant, he should ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the law relating to the representation of the people of England and Wales, and to facilitate the registration and voting of electors. (Cheers.)

In reply to a question from Sir J. Ogilvy, Mr. DISRAELI added, that it was the intention of the Government to introduce a Reform Bill for Scotland, but that it was impossible at present to state the day.

SALUTATION OF THE HOST.

Mr. GRIFFITH inquired of the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether any order, emanating from any authority at home or at Malta, was in existence, requiring the troops of the garrison to salute the host; or whether there was any such order to salute the archbishop of Malta, or any other Roman Catholic dignitary, by the operation of which such salute was rendered to him while carrying or accompanying the host in public procession?

Sir E. B. LYTON, in reply to the first part of the hon. gentleman's question, would state that no such order emanating from any authority at home had been given—requiring troops in the garrison of Malta to salute the host; but he believed there was an old garrison order at Malta by which the host was saluted. All such garrison orders were, however, superseded by Lord Hill's circular of 26th June, 1837, addressed to all general officers in command of our Roman Catholic colonies. That circular was in strict conformity with a practice that had hitherto

prevailed as to military honours paid to religious ceremonies. By that circular troops were prohibited from taking any part in any religious procession or ceremonial; but sentries were ordered to salute them at their posts as they passed, and bodies of troops under arms were directed to present to them, but not to remain under arms until their return. The circular said nothing whatever about saluting the host, and it was clear that the order for such military salute was not to be taken as any recognition of any Roman Catholic tenet or symbol, but merely to signify the respect which, by the terms of the capitulation, the Sovereign was to direct should be paid to the religion of the province and its establishments. These military compliments had continued to be paid ever since the capitulation of 1800, and at the time of the capitulation, it was understood and agreed that they should be accorded. He had received just before he came into the House a letter from the private secretary of the Governor of Malta, which explained this. (The right hon. gentleman read the letter, describing the circumstances under which honours were paid to the bishop, but it could not be heard in the gallery.) The House would see how little these military compliments were paid to the bishop in his priestly or pastoral capacity. The rule was to award to him the same honours as were paid to a brigadier-general. It was only on rare occasions, not oftener than once or twice a year, that the archbishop did accompany or carry the host in the procession, and when the compliment of a military salute was paid to him, it was not in his priestly capacity, but in his capacity of the second dignitary of the island.

OPIMUM TRADE IN CHINA.

Mr. GILPIN asked whether any sanction had been given by the Chinese Government to the trade in opium, or whether the introduction of that poison into China by British merchants is still in violation of the laws of that country?

Mr. S. FITZGERALD said, in reply:—

In future, the introduction of opium into China will not be a violation of the law of that country, as it is sanctioned by the treaty entered into between the two countries. The condition is that opium will pay a duty of ten per cent. ad valorem on introduction into a Chinese port, and there is a restriction on the importers selling anywhere but in the port; it will be carried into the interior only by Chinese traders, and the seller is not to be allowed to accompany any one of the traders. By one of the provisions of the treaty of Tien-Sing, British subjects are allowed to go into the interior of China with passports, but that privilege does not extend to persons engaged in this traffic, nor do the provisions in the treaty relating to the transit dues extend to this traffic, nor are the rules which are established on other grounds applicable to the opium trade.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENTS.

Mr. G. CLIVE asked on what rule Government advertisements are given to the newspapers; and went on to put another question—moving the adjournment of the House to enable him to do so. This second question related to the proposed appointment of a Master in Lunacy, in which he severely animadverted, insinuating that there could be no motive for it but the near relationship of the gentleman appointed to the Lord Chancellor. His remarks were a good deal cheered; but Mr. DISRAELI's still more so, when he complained that such a question had been put even without private notice, and disclaimed all knowledge of the subject. Sir W. JOLIFFE answered the former question, by stating that the Government advertisements are given, without the least reference to political considerations, to those newspapers (including several of the cheap press) which appeared to have the largest circulation. Mr. CLIVE gave notice that he would repeat his second question next evening.

INDIAN FINANCE.

Lord STANLEY, in moving for leave to bring in a bill enabling the Secretary of State for India to raise money in the United Kingdom for the service of the Indian Government, explained in detail the present financial condition and prospects of that country. During the ten years just preceding the mutiny, there had been a deficiency exhibited in the balance sheets of the first three and the last three years, a surplus having accrued during the intervening period of four years. In 1855-6 the income and expenditure were nearly balanced. Upon the accounts of the following year, 1856-7, however, there appeared a deficit of 179,000*l.*, the revenue having been 33,303,000*l.*, and the expenditure 33,482,000*l.* The returns for the two succeeding years had not been yet prepared or received, but it was estimated that the income of 1857-8 would be 31,544,000*l.*, and the outlay 39,120,000*l.*, leaving a deficiency of about 7,600,000*l.*, which would be increased to nine millions in round numbers, by some further items on account of transport and stores. For 1858-9 the estimated revenue was 33,015,000*l.*, against an outlay amounting to 45,629,000*l.*, showing a further deficiency of 12,600,000*l.*, making an aggregate deficiency of 21,700,000*l.*, incurred since the outbreak of the Sepoy revolt. During this period an extra military expenditure had been incurred of more than eighteen millions, to which must be added losses and other charges on account of the war to the amount of 5,659,000*l.* In January, 1857, the India army had comprised 45,547 European troops and 232,204 natives, while the present force was 91,580 Europeans and 243,951 natives, showing that the British force had been more than doubled, and the native regiments fully maintained at their former strength. The noble lord then described the gradual growth of the Indian debt, which had expanded from about 18 millions in 1800 to 74½ millions in the present year; but, as he observed, had scarcely ever ex-

ceeded two years' revenue of the country. Of this debt it appeared that 59½ millions had been subscribed in India, whereof fully three-fifths belong to native holders. He then adverted to the natural resources of India, as hitherto developed, observing as regards the future that wherever there existed a fertile soil and industrious population, there were the raw materials for almost unlimited prosperity. On this subject he successively noticed the rapid extension of trade, both the exports and imports having more than doubled since 1840, the increase in cotton cultivation, the steady progress effected in constructing railways, for which purpose the Indian Government had guaranteed a capital amounting in the gross to 39 millions, whereof 19 millions were already paid up, and various other harbour works, irrigation works, telegraphs, and miscellaneous undertakings. For the establishment of telegraphic communication between England and India the Government had guaranteed 4½ per cent. interest on a capital of 800,000*l.* The cable was nearly ready, and assurances were given that it would be completed to Aden by June next. A second line was also about to be constructed, under the auspices of the Turkish Government, via Constantinople, Basorah, and Kurrachee. Many of the public works already completed had proved enormously remunerative. Passing on to the subject of land tenure, Lord Stanley contended that it would be most inadvisable to attempt any violent changes in either of the three systems at present existing in different parts of Hindostan, and to which the native inhabitants had grown accustomed. There were, however, large unoccupied domains in the hands of the Government which might be utilised for the encouragement of colonists from England; and he also suggested that every holder of land might be enabled and stimulated to convert his tenure into freehold by paying a moderate price for its redemption from all Government claim, the money so received being carefully devoted to the extinction of the debt. Reverting to financial topics, the noble lord remarked that a large deficiency was unavoidable during the current year, and must somehow be supplied. Under ordinary circumstances the home government drew bills on India for the home service, but this at present was impossible, and it might even be found necessary to remit money from England to Calcutta. In summing up the various charges that had to be provided for, he arrived at the conclusion that seven millions in addition to the normal income of India would prove sufficient, and for a loan of that amount he proposed to ask the sanction of Parliament. The money would be borrowed either upon bonds or debentures, secured exclusively upon the Indian revenues. He thought he had succeeded in showing that the permanent burden which had been cast upon the resources of our Indian revenues was in reality a light one when compared with what those resources might become when they should be fully developed. The noble lord concluded as follows:—

A great deal had already been done to open India to the energy and enterprise of our countrymen. The distance between England and its Eastern empire was lessening every year, and the interest which was taken by this country in Oriental affairs was every year on the increase. All this, and the constant supervision which the House would in future exercise over the affairs of India, would do much to remedy existing abuses, and to stimulate future improvement. He believed that they would impress upon the mind of every Englishman serving in the East the fact that they were the representatives of their country in a manner which they had never before realised; and he believed that that feeling would call forth in them, as it had never yet been called forth, those great characteristics of our race which had so often controlled fortune and commanded success. (Loud cheers.)

A conversational discussion on one or two points followed, and in the end the Committee of the House was arranged for Friday night.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Last Wednesday's sitting of the Commons occupied one quarter of an hour. The principal business was the bringing up a report of supply, and the nomination, on the motion of Mr. Ewart, of a Select Committee on the Colonisation and Settlement of India. It will consist of the following Members:—Mr. William Ewart, Mr. Baillie, Mr. Campbell, Mr. De Vere, Mr. Gregson, Mr. Kinnaird, Mr. Knight, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Lygon, Mr. Arthur Mills, Mr. Nisbet, Sir Erskine Perry, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Danby Seymour, Mr. John Benjamin Smith, Mr. William Vansittart, Mr. Villiers, and Colonel Sykes.

Replying to Sir F. Baring, on Monday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that three bills would be introduced, in pursuance of the recommendations from the select committee on public moneys. The chief purposes of the proposed measures would be the establishment of an independent Audit-office, to verify the expenditure of the national revenue.

In reply to Lord Elcho the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the arrangement of the British Museum was still under the consideration of the Government.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES FOR 1859-60.

Last year's navy estimates were 8,851,371*l.*; those for the present year amount to 9,813,181*l.*, showing a net increase of 961,810*l.* The main items of increase are in wages of seamen which are 85,463*l.* more than last year, wages of artificers in dockyards, 321,109*l.* more, and building of ships, 781,498*l.* more. In addition to these estimates for 1859-60 there is a supplemental vote of 133,383*l.* to be taken for excess of naval expenditure in the year ended March, 31, 1858.

The details of the extraordinary charge required

for the so-called "reconstruction of the navy," are given as follows:—"For the purchase of timber, masts, deals, &c., 82,800*l.*; for the purchase of other stores, 17,200*l.*; for the purchase and repair of steam machinery, 335,000*l.*; for ships to be built by contract, 252,000*l.*" The other extraordinary charge is for wages. It will be distributed thus:—For earnings for the established workmen beyond day pay provided for by the ordinary estimate, 131,735*l.*; for wages of hired artificers, &c., to be employed, 165,972*l.*; for additional pay of officers superintending shipwright labour, 1,000*l.*—the total being 298,707*l.*

The total number of officers, seamen, and boys to be voted for the service of the year is 47,400, and the number of marines, 15,000.

MR. COBDEN ON REFORM.

Mr. Cobden, in sending to the Ballot Society his annual subscription to their funds, accompanied it with the following letter to Mr. E. C. Whitehurst, the vice-chairman of the society:—

Midhurst, Feb. 7, 1859.

My dear Sir,—I enclose my subscription to the Ballot Society. Don't suppose for a moment that Mr. Bright would wish you to give up your distinct organisation. I'll venture to say, when Mr. Berkeley brings forward his motion, he will have no better advocate at his back than Mr. Bright.

I cannot be present at your Ballot dinner, simply because I have laid down a rule which for a season will prevent me from attending any public demonstration. Had it not been for that resolution, which I had formed before Mr. Bright took charge of his Reform Bill, I should have been at his side long ago; for the programme he has put forth is almost identically the same as that which I endorsed in 1848, and which I supported in the House when it was brought forward by our revered friend, Mr. Hume.

Watching from my retirement Mr. Bright's progress, I am struck with the similarity of the ordeal he has gone through to that which I underwent in the earliest stage of the League agitation. The same misrepresentation of motives and misstatement of his arguments, the same affected horror of his designs on Monarch, Church, aristocracy, and property which he now undergoes, I also went through; and if he should persevere for a few years until his plain in its main features becomes law, as it assuredly will do, then he will experience, as I did, the pleasant side of the ordeal. Then, when everybody discovers that, instead of all the evils predicted, nothing but increased security, contentment, and prosperity spring from his reforms, he will find nine-tenths of those who now profess the greatest dread of him, the most eager to shake hands with him on the success of his measures. Nay, they will claim to have been always with him on principle, only regretting that they did not better understand each other at the outset. This is the chequered fate of all the pioneers of political progress, and our friend has had too much experience in such matters to be either disappointed or discouraged at what is now happening.

It is true that I am about to carry out the intention I have for some time entertained of paying a very short visit to the United States. I hope to be able to report to you that I have witnessed the operation of the Ballot in that country.

Believe me, very truly yours,
E. C. Whitehurst, Esq. R. COBDEN.

THE MIDDLE-CLASS EXAMINATIONS.

The list of those who have successfully passed the examinations which the University of Cambridge has instituted for students under sixteen years of age, not members of the university, has just been published. It is divided into four parts, the first three being classes comprising the names of the students who have obtained honours; and the fourth, of those who have satisfied the examiners, but are not included in the foregoing classes. The list shows the student's number, the place of examination, the name, the residence of parent or guardian, the name of schoolmaster or tutor; and lastly, the name of school or place of education.

The examinations were held in London, at Grantham, Bristol, Brighton, Liverpool, Cambridge, Norwich, and Birmingham.

FIRST CLASS.—In this class the Grammar School at Lincoln, Rev. J. Fowler, B.A., sent one boy. The Mansion-house School, Exeter, J. Templeton, M.A., one. Grammar School, Bristol, C. T. Hudson, M.A., one. Clive House School, Brighton, A. A. Hoffman, one. Grammar School, Moulton, Rev. H. Nelson, M.A., one. Collegiate School, Bishop's Stortford, J. Bell, M.A., one. Hermitage, Bath, W. Horner, one. Rishworth School, Halifax, Rev. D. Bellamy, M.A., one. Cathedral School, Hereford, J. Woollam, M.A., one. New Kingswood School, Bath, H. Jefferson, one. King Edward's School, Bury St. Edmunds, Rev. A. H. Wratiaslaw, M.A., one. Royal Grammar School, Lancaster, Rev. T. F. Lee, M.A., two. Upper Clapton School, F. and G. R. Green, M.A., one. Leatherhead Grammar School, J. Payne, one.

SECOND CLASS.—In this class the Grammar School, Dorchester, Rev. T. Masken, M.A., sent one. Grammar School, East Retford, Rev. J. P. Clayton, M.A., one. Grammar School, Bristol, C. T. Hudson, M.A., three. Grammar School, Lincoln, Rev. J. Fowler, B.A., one. Montpelier House, Brighton, H. S. Turrell, two. Denmark-hill Grammar School, C. P. Mason, B.A., two. Pestalozzian School, Worksop, J. L. Ellenberger, one. Rose-hill School, Brighton, L. W. Scudamore, B.A., two. Mansion House School, Exeter, J. Templeton, M.A., one. Royal Institution School, Liverpool, Rev. D. W. Turner, one. Collegiate Institution, Sandicroft, Cheshire, H. P. Stedman, M.A., and P. N. Lawrence, B.A., one. Royal Grammar School, Colchester, Rev. Dr. Wright, one. The Hermitage, Bath, W. Horner, one. Fauconberge Grammar School, Beccles, Rev. A. O. Hartley, M.A., two. Brighton College, Rev. J. Griffith, M.A., two. King Edward's School, Birmingham, Rev. E. H. Gifford, M.A., two. Grammar School, Leatherhead, J. Payne, two. Collegiate Institution, Liverpool, Rev. J.

S. Howson, M.A., one. King's School, Ely, Rev. J. Ingle, M.A., one. Proprietary Grammar School, Stepney, Rev. W. C. Izard, M.A., one. Clare Mount School, Wallasey, Rev. W. C. Greene, M.A., one. Blackheath College, Lee-park, Rev. J. A. Andras, M.A., one. Upper Clapton School, F. and G. R. Green, M.A., one. Park School, Birkenhead, Rev. R. Wall, M.A., one. I. Devonshire-place, Bath, W. F. Shaw, one. Windermere College, G. H. Puckle, M.A., one. King Edward's School, Louth, Rev. G. C. Hodgkinson, M.A., one. Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Ipswich, Rev. H. A. Holden, M.A., one. Collegiate Institution, Sandicroft, Northwich, H. P. Stedman, M.A., and P. N. Lawrence, B.A., one. Royal Grammar School, Lancaster, Rev. T. F. Lee, M.A., one.

THIRD CLASS.—In this class the Grammar School, London-road, Leicester, G. B. Franklin, sent one. Shaw-house, Melksham, Smith and Goldie, one. Royal Grammar School, Colchester, Rev. Dr. Wright, one. King Edward's School, Birmingham, Rev. E. H. Gifford, M.A., three. Mansion-house School, Exeter, J. Templeton, M.A., one. Grammar School, Bristol, C. T. Hudson, M.A., one. I. Devonshire-place, Bath, W. F. Shaw, one. Upper Clapton School, F. and G. R. Green, M.A., one. Park School, Birkenhead, Rev. R. Wall, M.A., one. The Academy, Chippenham, John Wilson, M.A., one. Montpelier-house, Brighton, H. Stein Turrell and R. W. Biggs, four. Alfred-house Academy, Deal, Lush and Austen, one. Collegiate Institution, Liverpool, Rev. J. S. Howson, M.A., one. Grammar School, Lincoln, Rev. J. Fowler, one. King's School, Warwick, Rev. H. Hill, M.A., one. King Edward's School, Birmingham, Rev. E. H. Gifford, M.A., one. Academy, Biggleswade, Conquest and Oliver, one. Brunswick-house School, Kelvedon, Essex, R. R. Willis, one. Cotham School, Bristol, J. Eley, M.A., one. Royal Grammar School, Lancaster, Rev. T. F. Lee, M.A., one. Grammar School, St. Asaph, J. J. H. Harris, one. Southbridge-house, Northampton, W. Kingston, one. Free School, Hall-green, F. T. Swinburn, B.A., one.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen and the Prince Consort left Windsor Castle for Buckingham Palace on Monday afternoon, accompanied by Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, and the Princesses Alice, Helena, Louisa, and Beatrice. Among those who visited the Queen on Friday evening were the Earl of Carlisle, the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, the Hon. and Rev. C. Moore, the Provost of Eton, and Lieut.-General K. Knollys, Lord George Lennox, Lord De Ros, and the Right Hon. Sir Hamilton and Lady Seymour.

Viscountess Palmerston had a reception on Saturday evening at Cambridge House, which was attended by a numerous circle of the *corps diplomatique* and aristocracy.

The number of Armstrong guns ordered by the Government is said to be 200.

It is said that Government have given out orders for the construction of 16 engines, destined for war steamers.

It is noticed that the number of Italian refugees in London has considerably diminished during the last few days.

Signor Gavazzi returns to Ireland to deliver a course of lectures in the provinces in the month of March next. Gavazzi says, that this will be his "farewell visit to Ireland, before starting for Italy, to answer his country's call." In the course of the next week he will deliver his last lectures in London, on the great question of the day—"Italy—By Right or Treaty?"

Mr. Cobden has left Liverpool, by the Canada, for the United States. He is expected back again in England in about a couple of months.

The town-council of Nottingham has granted a site in the Arboretum for a statue to the late Feargus O'Connor. The *Nottingham Journal* protests very warmly against this concession.

Sir George Grey has purchased the estate of Doxford, which adjoins his property of Falldon, from the executors of the late Mrs. Thorp, of Alnwick. The price is said to be 35,000*l.*

It is said that the report about to be presented by the Royal Commission for Manning the Navy will propose a system which, in the opinion of the commissioners, will insure the maintenance of that service in a state of perfect efficiency at all times, at an addition to the present outlay of something like 600,000*l.* per annum.

It is stated that the Lord Chancellor has accepted the resignation of Mr. Commissioner Winalow, one of the masters in lunacy, and has appointed William Frederick Higgins, Esq., the registrar lately appointed to Mr. Commissioner Fane's Court, to the vacancy. Mr. Higgins was called to the bar in April 1847. It is stated that William Carnant Scott, Esq., of the Middle Temple and Western Circuit, has been appointed as Mr. Higgins's successor. These appointments have been noticed in Parliament.

A deputation of medical officers of unions waited on Mr. Estcourt, on Wednesday. They were introduced by Lord John Russell and many members of Parliament. Their views were expounded by several speakers, and their object was to oppose a scheme recently promulgated by the Poor-law Board. The speakers seemed to desire permanent appointment and remuneration per case, instead of a fixed salary. The result was that Mr. Estcourt said he felt the majority of feeling was opposed to his plan. He should not think of proposing for legislative adoption any scheme which has not the concurrence of the medical profession, the rate-payers, and the poor.

There are, it is said, from 5,000 to 6,000 interdicted priests in Paris alone. Many of these clerical outcasts have become either waiters or cabmen.

Miscellaneous News.

THE BIRTH OF A PRUSSIAN PRINCE.—At a meeting of the Court of Common Council on Thursday, an address was adopted congratulating the Queen on the birth of a Prince, "son of the Prince and Princess Frederick William of Prussia, and heir to the illustrious house of Hohenzollern." Mr. Deputy Lott was the fortunate mover. For the post of seconder there was great contention. The Lord Mayor called upon Mr. Towman Taylor; the Council upon Deputy White. The latter gained the day.

THE HOME EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE.—At the meeting of the Liverpool Historic Society on Thursday evening, Mr. Hugh Shimmim, who read a paper on the above subject, recommended house-to-house visitation by visitors of a suitable class, who should be more remarkable for sound common sense in the affairs of life than for their expertness in untying the knots of theological disputation. Working men themselves would be as efficient agents in such a work as they had been in promoting, advocating, and establishing the temperance movement.

MUNIFICENT OFFER.—A friend of the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, has offered to subscribe the liberal sum of 1,500*l.* towards liquidating the debt of 6,000*l.* on the hospital at the Victoria Park, provided that the remaining sum of 4,500*l.* shall be collected on the occasion of the forthcoming Anniversary Festival, which is to take place on Wednesday, 16th March next. The Committee are about to take active measures for securing if possible the benefit of this munificent proposal, and all who know the value of the charity will concur in the hope that their appeal to the public may be successful.

PETITIONS TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The following are suggestions on petitions, as taken from the votes and proceedings of the House of Commons. They may be of service to our friends in petitioning for Parliamentary Reform, abolition of Church-rates, and on other matters:—

Every petition must be written, and not printed or lithographed. Every petition must contain a prayer. Every petition must be signed by at least one person on the skin or sheet on which the petition is written. Every petition must be signed by the parties whose names are appended thereto, by their names or marks, and by no one else, except in cases of incapacity by sickness. No letters, affidavits, or other documents may be attached to any petition. No erasures or interlineations may be made in any petition. No reference may be made to any debate in Parliament. All petitions, after they have been ordered to lie upon the table, are referred to the committee on public petitions without any question being put; but if any such petition relate to any matter or subject with respect to which the member presenting it has given notice of a motion, and the said petition has not been ordered to be printed by the committee, such member may, after notice given, move that such petition be printed with the votes.

THE LONDON SHOEBLACK SOCIETIES.—The annual winter treat of the London Shoeblick Societies was held last Tuesday evening, in St. Martin's-hall. The boys were entertained with tea, and bread and butter and cake, and their various uniforms and flags presented a very gay appearance. The following is a list of the societies present, with the number of boys in each. Ragged School Shoeblick Society, red uniform, 71 boys; East London, blue, 82; South London, yellow, 48; North-West London, white, 20; West Kent, green, 13; West London, purple, 21; Islington, brown, red facings, 25; Notting-hill, blue, red facings, 15; Kensington, brown, purple facings, 14; Union Jack (Limehouse), red, blue facings, 16; total, 325. The total earnings of all these societies during the past year amounted to 4,308*l.* The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, and the attendance of visitors was very numerous. Among those present were the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster, Lady Radstock, Mr. R. Hanbury, M.P., Mr. S. Gurney, M.P., Alderman Finnis, Captain Trotter, Sir C. Fox, Mr. J. Payne, Mr. J. M'Gregor, &c. The meeting was addressed by the Earl of Shaftesbury, and several other gentlemen. The band of the boys of the Yellow Society was in attendance, and played at intervals during the evening.

SCHOOLS, BATHS, AND WASHHOUSES FOR SOUTHWARK.—On Wednesday, Lord Shaftesbury laid the first stone of a series of buildings in Gravel-lane, Southwark, intended to serve the various purposes of schools, reading-room, dormitories, baths, and washhouses. The meeting afterwards adjourned to the school-rooms, Green-walk, Holland-street, where a collation was given. After the refreshments had been partaken of, the Rev. Joseph Brown said he had issued 30,000 letters within five years, and he now only wanted 300*l.* to carry out to a complete and successful issue such a combination as had not yet been attempted in the metropolis for the physical, mental, moral, and spiritual condition of the neglected and destitute classes. In the course of the subsequent proceedings, the Earl of Shaftesbury, having proposed the health of the Queen, the Bishop of the diocese, and the clergymen present, proceeded to give "Prosperity to the Albert Institution, and its founder and promoter, the Rev. Joseph Brown." In doing so, his lordship strongly commended Mr. Brown's plans, as being essentially the restoration of the old parochial system of the Church of England;—the funds collected—the people to be benefited—the management and superintendence, were all as much as possible independent of outer support and aid, and he could not but feel a strong hope and belief that the institution itself would supply, to some extent, the want of those great physical and sanitary conditions without which we could never

have a permanently healthy, intelligent, moral, and religious people. At five o'clock about 200 of the parents and children sat down to an excellent tea; and at eight o'clock a working man's supper was spread in the same room where the "collation" was partaken of. The dimensions and accommodation of the Albert Institution are as follows:—On the basement at the back are hot baths to accommodate six persons, washhouses for ten persons. The reading-room is on the ground floor. In the first floor, running up to the second, is the school for 200 children. On the third floor, front and back, there is a refuge of twenty beds and eight living rooms for selected elderly persons, each room twelve feet by fifteen feet, with Pierce's stove, sink, gas, and Lord Shaftesbury's mode of ventilation. The school-room, reading-room, and washhouses are thirty-eight feet by thirty feet; dormitory, thirty-eight feet by fifty-five. There are water cistern towers, each having a separate cistern, in case of accident. Estimated cost 1,550*l.*, exclusive of fittings.

RAILWAY MEETINGS LAST WEEK.—At the Great Western a dividend was declared for the past half-year at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum, instead of 2 per cent., as proposed by the directors. The total outlay of capital, including all liabilities and prospective expenditure to the end of 1861, is estimated at 23,420,000*l.* for the Great Western lines proper. The report of the Midland states that the receipts for the six months ending in December show an increase of 29,116*l.* over the same period of 1857. The available balance is 328,890*l.*, and the proposed distribution is at the rate of 5½ per cent. per annum on the Midland stock and 4½ on the Birmingham and Derby. At a meeting of the London and South-Western the proposed dividend was declared at the rate of 5½ per cent. per annum. Negotiations are about to be renewed with the Brighton with respect to the Portsmouth line and traffic. Mr. Chaplin has retired from the chairmanship, retaining, however, his seat at the board. The receipts of the London and North-Western in the past half-year were 1,682,060*l.*, showing an increase of 100,198*l.* over the corresponding period of 1857. The expenses were 669,363*l.*, also showing an augmentation of 12,271*l.*. A distribution is proposed at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum. The report of the Lancashire and Yorkshire announces the available balance to be 195,935*l.*, out of which a dividend is recommended at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum. The increase in the net receipts has been 4,132*l.*

Law and Police.

THE GREAT THELLUSON WILL CASE.—The will of Peter Thelluson, so frequent a cause of litigation, has given rise to two appeals to the House of Lords. By that extravagant document a large mass of property was directed to accumulate and be divided among the eldest male lineal descendants of his three sons, after the death of the survivor of nine lives. This event happened in 1856, and the legal dispute is—who are the eldest, those in point of lineage, or those in point of years? The Master of the Rolls gave the property to Lord Rendlesham, and Charles Sabine Thelluson—the "eldest male lineal descendant." Against this decision the appeals are made.

A HASTY MARRIAGE AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.—A follower of the Prince of Oude appeared in the Court of Common Pleas as defendant in an action for debt. It seems he was smitten by the charms of a niece of a Mrs. Thomas, living in Stingo Lane, Bryanstone-square. He insisted on marriage, and was married by licence instant. He remained in the house three weeks, and the friends of his bride feasted themselves all the time at his expense—he paid 108*l.* Then he furnished a house for 150*l.* As soon as his money was gone quarrels commenced. The aunt told him her niece would kill him, and recommended him to run away and leave Aunt Thomas to sell the furniture. The Indian signed a bill of sale, but did not receive any of the proceeds; and he was next arrested at the suit of Mrs. Thomas for 33*l.* 10*s.*, "for board and lodging." This was an unfounded claim. The Indian picked up a defender somewhere; and then the brokers who had the proceeds of the sale found it convenient to hand over two-thirds of the proceeds of the sale. These facts were proved; the attempt to do the "native" was obvious; and the jury found a verdict for the defendant.

A QUACK DOCTOR, FRAUD, AND PERJURY.—A remarkable series of frauds came to light in consequence of an action in the Westminster County Court. The defendant in the case was one John Gibson Bennet, "surgeon-aunist;" the plaintiff, Miss Mary Scattergood. She informed the Court that, being a sufferer from deafness, she read an advertisement stating that that complaint could be cured in ten minutes. Acting on that statement, she went to 6, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, where the defendant was receiving patients as "Doctor Coulston." He told her he could cure her "in ten minutes for ten guineas," but afterwards undertook the cure for half that amount. On the following day she went again to his house with the five guineas, which she paid to him, and "sat down, thinking she was going to be cured at once." The defendant, however, making a trivial excuse, sent her away with a bottle of mixture, which was to be used at night, and "cure her perfectly by the following morning." She went away and applied the mixture, which made her head and ears sore, and she became much worse. When she went to the defendant's house to complain, she was told by a person whom she believed to be his brother, that Doctor Coulston could not be seen, and that he would be away for several days. She subsequently called repeatedly, and was at length told that he had gone

abroad—to Madeira. Two years passed away, and Miss Scattergood was accompanying a female friend, Miss Thomas, to the house of a "Doctor Matton," in Spring-gardens. There the plaintiff recognised the defendant, and was recognised in return. Subsequently, when Miss Thomas had to sue "Matton," Bennet appeared in court as the defendant in the action, and Miss Scattergood identified him as Coulston. A witness named Mullen proved that he accompanied his daughter on a visit to Spring Gardens, and there had an interview with him as "Dr. Watters." Mr. Mullen having occasion to ask the "Doctor" for the return of an over-payment, the latter called him a "grey-headed old rascal," threatened to throw him down stairs, and scolded him for taking up his time, "for he had fifty patients to see every day, and was a much greater man than Sir Benjamin Brodie." Miss Rositer, another witness, having been attracted to Spring-gardens by the defendant's advertisement, had paid him, as "Dr. Watters," 4*l.* 3*s.* to cure her "in ten minutes," with the usual result. The defendant's answer to these numerous allegations was a bold one. He went into the witness-box and said that he had never received any money from the plaintiff, or ever seen her before that day. He had never resided at 6, Leicester-place, never practised as Dr. Coulston. Not only Miss Scattergood, but the witnesses Mullen and Rositer, were entirely mistaken as to his identity. He mentioned his brother as having been "connected with a Mr. Coulston as an assistant." The brother was put into the box. He appeared some ten years younger than the defendant, and said that "plaintiff was a gratis patient of Mr. Coulston, and never paid a halfpenny." He was asked whether such a person as Mr. Coulston really existed; and, in reply, expressed his surprise that that gentleman was not present, "as he had been subpoenaed." The names of "Samuel Coulston" and "Doctor Samuel Coulston" were called, but the only response was the laughter of the audience. The judge, when the case had been fully laid before him, said there could be no doubt that a conspiracy and a fraud had been committed, and he should at the same time order the defendant to be taken into custody for perjury.

COLONEL DICKSON AND THE EARL OF WILTON.—The Court of Queen's Bench has been occupied with the action for libel brought by Lieut.-Colonel Dickson, late of the Tower Hamlets Militia, against the Earl of Wilton, his superior officer. The matter has, it will be remembered, occupied the public attention in a correspondence which has appeared in the papers, and it has also been before Parliament at the instance of Mr. Duncombe. Colonel Dickson was called upon by the War Office to resign his commission, which he declined to do, and he was consequently removed from the colonelcy. It now appears that the alleged libel occurred in a letter addressed by Lord Wilton to Field-Marshal Viscount Combermere, and, in an oral communication which the defendant made to Mr. Thomas Duncombe, M.P., accusing Colonel Dickson of misappropriation of the regimental funds. Thursday was occupied with the speech of Mr. Edwin James for the prosecution and in the examination of the plaintiff. In the course of his cross-examination Colonel Dickson said he never had the slightest difference with Lord Wilton up to the middle of 1857. He then went much into detail with regard to the accounts for the regimental mess. The case for the prosecution was concluded on Friday afternoon, when the Attorney-General opened that for the defence. The examination of witnesses, among whom was Field-Marshal Lord Combermere, was still proceeding when the Court rose on Saturday evening. On Monday the Earl of Wilton was examined by the Attorney-General. Subsequently the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief, was put in the witness-box. The Attorney-General addressed the jury on the part of the defendant. His speech extended over four hours, and on his concluding, at eight o'clock, the court adjourned. Yesterday Mr. E. James, Q.C., addressed the jury in reply to the defence with his usual eloquence and ability. He said that the question was, whether in a moment of petulance, annoyance, and irritation with Colonel Dickson, the noble defendant sat down and penned the documents which were charged as libels, and which were uttered to Mr. Thomas Duncombe, the member for Finsbury, who, though not a rich man, was a man of irreproachable integrity. (Cheers in court.) In the course of his summing up the Lord Chief Justice made some observations on the non-publication of the report of the War Office board, and condemned the private interviews which had taken place between Lord Wilton and Lord Combermere. That was what a common-law judge in this country would spurn instantly. These private interviews between Lord Wilton and Lord Combermere were to be regretted, because Lord Wilton was the accuser, and Colonel Dickson was the accused, and the judge ought not to have heard the one except in the presence of the other. It was to be regretted that Lord Combermere and the War Office did not regulate their proceedings according to the proceedings which took place in courts of law. The question which the jury would have to decide was, whether, looking at all the circumstances of the case, the defendant (Lord Wilton), from other motives than a sense of duty, wrote the letters of the 26th of May and the 24th of July. If in writing them Lord Wilton was actuated only by a sense of duty, he was entitled to a verdict; but if, without having any personal spite against Colonel Dickson, he was actuated by a feeling of irritation, and a wish to have the plaintiff removed from the regiment, or in weakness surrendered himself to the adjutant, Captain Foley, who framed the indictment against the

plaintiff, he was answerable for what he had done from other motives than a sense of duty, and the jury ought to find a verdict for the plaintiff. The jury were absent for two hours, and they returned into court with a verdict for Colonel Dickson, giving him 200*l.* damages for the slander complained of, and 5*l.* for the offence contained in two letters. The announcement of this verdict was received with loud cheers, which was immediately checked by the officers of the court. But as soon as the audience had reached the outside of the court, they, and a crowd which had assembled, uttered shouts of triumph as the plaintiff got into a cab and drove away.

Literature.

English Country Life. By THOMAS MILLER, Author of "A Day in the Woods," &c. &c. With nearly Three Hundred Illustrations, by Birket Foster, John Gilbert, William Harvey, &c. London: Routledge and Co.

FOREMOST among our writers on the poetry of Nature, and on our dear English scenery and country-life, is the well-known THOMAS MILLER, who again presents us with a book on his best-loved theme. He tells us that, though he has written some half-score books on the Country, on none has he bestowed so much care and labour as on the present work. And the product of all his care and labour is one which will be welcome and dear in all English homes; and which will teach many a gentle spirit to observe, to enjoy, and to love the beauties and wonders of the fields and woods, the waters and the skies.

Mr. Miller leads us into the Country at the early Spring, shows us its bursting buds and its first cottage flowers;—then, in the green April, down lanes and by meadow streams, we wander;—until, by sight and sound, and pleasant wise talk, we come to appreciate the sweet spring time, and to know all about the buds of spring, the trees in spring, and the human occupations and pleasures of the spring. May-day in the Olden Time rises before us, with its quaint and beautiful customs; and the modern May-day, though stripped of many rural observances, comes to us with an inviting smile and leads on to the Summer time. The Life and Death of Summer—all its beauty and glory and beneficence—and the pathos of its decline and death into Autumn—are exquisitely brought home to us. And then, through the more sober scenery and the sadder suggestions of the Autumn, we wend onwards with our genial companion, to the dark December, and the mid-winter, the snows and the winds without, and Christmas warmth and amusements within. And all along this progress of the year, we are made to observe the aspects of each season, to distinguish its characteristic flowers and birds, to understand its natural history and its rural occupations. Very charming are the pictures that our eyes rest on, of forest scenes, of golden fields, of the seashore, of villages in nooks and corners of the land; and there is very life in the country-people that we meet with, and great pleasantness in all their old customs and their merry festivals. If we thought Mr. Miller's happy gifts for such writing as this needed illustration, we would give an extract: for something quotable lies on every page. But we are persuaded he is well known.

Heartily do we commend the book to our readers,—to those in towns, because it will bring Nature and Beauty and Joy into their crowded streets and smoky air,—to those in the country, because it will interpret to them the things they are in danger of thinking common, and quicken them to pure feeling of delight and thankfulness.

The book is most profusely illustrated by the artists named on the title-page; and none could give us our English scenery better than they. Some of the cuts are as beautiful as is possible; but some seem greatly worn by previous use.

The Poetical Works of Armstrong, Dyer, and Green. With Memoirs, &c. By Rev. G. GILFILLAN. Edinburgh: James Nichol.

ARMSTRONG'S "Art of Preserving Health"—which Scotchmen will persist in affirming to be one of the best didactic poems in the English language, and for which they suggest that the author be associated with Akenside,—is the very last of all poetical performances known to us that have been admitted to anything like popularity, in which we are able to take an interest. Belonging to the same class as the "Pleasures of the Imagination" it is immeasurably beneath it in every quality that makes a poem. The only reasons for associating Armstrong with Akenside are, that each was a doctor of medicine, that each begins with A, and that each wrote verses. Mr. Gilfillan has done all that can be done for Armstrong's fame; and has certainly made him more interesting to us than he was before. But, fifty lines will be found to be about the sum total of the poetry in Armstrong's works. Think of a hundred pages in which the second best passage that an admirer can select,—and which he calls "magnificently strong and simple lines,"—is the following:—

"We court thy beams, great majesty of day!
If not the soul, the regent of this world,
First-born of heaven, and only less than God."

DYER'S "Fleece" is one of the poems that lives for the sake of the beauties scattered up and down its lines rather than for its excellence and interest as a whole. It is, however, so much better than Armstrong as to be worthy of better companionship. Yet, Mr. Gilfillan has been right, unquestionably, in bringing together the

three poets whose works this volume contains, on the ground of kindredness which scarcely exists between them and others than themselves. Of Dyer he has written appreciatively, and has nearly done justice to the descriptions and pictures that made Christopher North and Wordsworth agree with Akenside in warmly admiring the poem. But it is to "Grongar Hill" that Dyer owes, and will always owe, the better part of his fame—as true a little poem as is in the language, and for ever delightful.

GREEN—of whom we wrote something when Mr. Wilmott's edition of his works was before us—is hardly ranked high enough, we think, by Mr. Gillilan. Yet he cordially recognises his "many poetical and brilliant thoughts," his "keen, strong sense," and his "most condensed couplets and sharp-edged lines." Pope praised "The Spleen" for "a great deal of originality."

This volume, as a whole, is not so attractive as most of the series; but it is a necessary one, and ought to be a welcome one. We see that the next issue of the "Library Edition of British Poets" is to be SPENSER, in five volumes. The first is "out," and has novel features which will claim from us something of careful notice.

The Koran in India. An Essay which obtained the Le Bas Prize for 1858. By LUMLEY SMITH, B.A., Fellow of Trinity Hall. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.

THIS essay compares the Religious Policy of Akbar with that of Aurungzebe—the one a policy of tolerance and protection to differing religions; though perhaps only regarding religion in the light of an institution of Civil utility;—the other, a policy of intolerance and persecution, breeding strife and discontent, and ending ruinously. These passages of Indian history have been well studied; and Mr. Lumley Smith has written of them with some breadth of thought and with excellent spirit. The light they throw on our own position and duties, as English Christians, give their chief present interest and significance to the times and movements of Akbar and Aurungzebe; and the author, admitting that Christianity must have a free course allowed it in India, and the old official method of dealing with Hinduism and Moslemism be discontinued, argues from the examples furnished by the two policies to which his essay relates, "that there, is no course to be pursued by us [in spreading Christianity] but the slow progress of patient and laborious teaching."

Japan and Her People. By ANDREW STEINMETZ, Barrister-at-law. With numerous Illustrations. London: Routledge and Co.

This book appears at a time when it is certain to find readers. We are not quite so destitute of information respecting Japan as certain correspondents and a few critics would persuade us; for there is a very considerable English library on the country and its people, from Purchas's *Pilgrimage*, and *Golevni's Captivity*—which we all surely remember well—down to the late Mr. Macfarlane's compilation, *Japan, Geographical and Historical*, on which (being the property of his publisher) Mr. Steinmetz's work is founded. To what he found ready to hand in the last work named, Mr. Steinmetz has added valuable and interesting materials; especially from a series of articles in the *Chinese Repository* (1832-45), partly reprinted in a book entitled "Manners and Customs of the Japanese," and from the recent *United States Expedition to Japan*. Besides these, he has gone to "old Kampfer, still the standard book," which, he says, "subsequent writers have but illustrated, scarcely added to;"—and to several Dutch and French authors whose works are untranslated. It is admitted that the book pretends to be no more than a compilation: and, though it might have been somewhat better in literary character, it is so full and complete a repository of information, and the matter is so intrinsically interesting, that it is deserving of a welcome by all who would find in one book whatsoever is to be known respecting Japan, and the recent "entrance of the Western wedge into the granitic block of Oriental stagnation." Of course there is abundance of material for extract in it, which might give great gratification to our readers; but as the work is not an independent one, and is published by those benefactors of common readers, the Messrs. Routledge, at a price which, though it is handsomely printed and well-illustrated, brings it within the reach of all, we think we may content ourselves with thus introducing and commending it to attention. We ought perhaps to add that Mr. Steinmetz's elucidations of his matter are always intelligent, and his comments on the significant problems it starts in the mind always in a right spirit, even if not always such as to command entire assent.

PERIODICALS.

Blackwood's Magazine for February contains a varied selection of articles, which prevent the reader from missing the monthly treat to which they have so long been accustomed, in Sir E. B. Lytton's elaborate and completed novel, "What will he do with it?" Carlyle's "Frederick the Great" is reviewed in a searching article, which, though exposing the leading faults of the philosophical historian, praises him for his suggestiveness, and his successful opposition to the vile utilitarian spirit. The third part of "A Cruise in Japanese Waters" throws further light on the peculiar manners and customs of that interesting Oriental people.—The prominent features of *Fraser* are a most interesting sketch of Hodson, the Indian hero, whose high personal and military qualities in the Indian rebellion are depicted with the force

and vividness that characterise the author of "Tom Browne's School Days," a generous critique on Mr. Gladstone's "Homer," and an interesting review of the "Life of Dr. Buckland," the great geologist. Frederick Tennyson contributes three pages of the "Song of an Old Man;" and the fragments of two tales will satisfy the cravings of readers of lighter literature.—The *National Magazine*, besides a number of engravings of more than average merit, contains a thoughtful paper on "Punishment and Reformation," a lively tale by Mr. R. B. Brough, and an article on "Love," which sets forth in glowing language the blessedness and economy of matrimony over the single state. Few will be disposed to dissent from the conclusion that "When a marriage is reasonable, contracted with foresight, when the family does not increase too fast, a wife, far from being an obstacle to liberty of movement, is, on the contrary, its natural and essential condition."—In *Titan*, the author of the graphic tale, "Behind the Scenes in Paris," now republished in a separate form, commences a new story entitled "Getting on," which promises to carry the readers' interest through several successive numbers. "The Shy Young Man" is a description in verse of the troubles that befall a mortal afflicted with that most embarrassing of maladies.—The *Eclectic* for this month, the second number under its new auspices, fulfils the promise held out by its new proprietors. "Town and Forest," the new tale by the authoress of "Mary Powell," exhibits the artistic skill and wholesome tendencies of that favourite writer, and promises, in the guise of fiction, to stimulate the movement on behalf of the social and religious elevation of the masses. In "The Queen's Government and the Religions of India" we trace a pen familiar to our readers, and one qualified above most to deal with the condition-of-India question. Mr. Wills, the author of "Wanderings among the High Alps," contributes an account of an adventure that befell him in an ascent of Mont Blanc under the title "Bad Weather on the Mountains." The characteristics of Dr. Guthrie, the great Scotch preacher, are touched off with a facile hand, and "A Ride over the Rocky Mountains" gives much valuable information of a region as yet but little explored. The *Eclectic* has decidedly renewed its youth.—In the *Monthly Christian Spectator*, the story entitled "Fennel Leaves" reaches its third chapter. The writer of "The Land and its Lords" looks with no favour on the forcible division of land required by French law, and traces to the fractional division of the soil in France the political serfdom of the population. In reference to this country he says, "Abolish, if you will, the laws of primogeniture and entail, in virtue of which the principle of consolidation is favoured and maintained in relation to the land of intestates; but leave the land to the free disposal of its possessors." The writer argues in favour of large proprietors on the plea that while land remains in large masses it attracts capital sufficient to ensure its most profitable cultivation, when it is not hampered by entails and accidental charges, which sometimes operate in the opposite direction, and on the fact that England, though so much smaller than France, contains many millions more of sheep, oxen, and horses, and produces a far larger harvest for the support of the people than that pattern land of democracy. "The School and College Life of Milton" is a review of Professor Masson's work. "The Christian Nurture of Children," extracted from the works of Dr. Bushnell, the American divine, should be perused by all parents.—The *Art Journal* maintains its position as an illustrated monthly, suitable for drawing-room use. The indefatigable Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Hall, having finished "The Book of the Thames," have commenced a description of the scenery of the Wye and South Wales. The engravings are "Viscount Hardinge;" "A Sea-port," after Claude; and "The Woman of Samaria," after Guercino. Mr. Foley's statue of Lord Hardinge, from which the engraving is taken, is evidently a masterpiece of art.

Gleanings.

It is said that her Majesty's Theatre will be converted into a huge hotel, after the trans-Atlantic fashion, a lease having been recently granted by Lord Ward for that purpose to certain parties.

Mr. Charles Dickens is hard at work in the preparation of a new serial tale, in monthly numbers; and it is not unlikely that a short story, also from his pen, will soon be published in *Household Words*.

A gentleman was travelling recently in Prussia, where the people are much given to eating horse-flesh. He was asked at the *table d'hôte* if he would try a little of the high mettle viand, and he replied, "No, I thank you; I object altogether to the horse being in the carts."

The commission which has been sitting upon the question of lowering the diapason at the French musical theatres, have decided upon lowering a quarter of a tone, an almost imperceptible amelioration, and which is declared by some of the best artists to be insufficient.

The *Christian Mirror* says of the new-year's gifts made to pastors in Portland (U.S.):—"Some have received 50 dollars, 100 dollars, and others 200 dollars or 300 dollars. Three members of High-street congregation (church and parish) presented their pastor, Dr. Chickering, with a railroad bond for 500 dollars."

It is reported that Dr. Charles Mackay, the poet, is about to establish an American newspaper in London. It will be on the plan of Smith and Elder's

Outward and Homeward Indian Mail. One issue will inform English people of what is happening in America, and the other will apprise Americans of what is going on in England.

A new work on Palestine is promised early in March, from the pen of the Rev. Dr. Buchanan, author of the "Ten Years' Conflict," under the title of "Notes of a Clerical Furlough, chiefly spent in the Holy Land." We have been favoured with some extracts, part of which will be found in our column of miscellanies.

FRENCH PRODIGALITY.—M. Pereire, the great financier, on Wednesday last inaugurated the splendid mansion which he has built for himself (at an expense, it is said, of seven millions of francs) in the Faubourg St. Honoré at Paris. More than fifteen hundred guests were invited, and nearly all the Ministers of State, part of the diplomatic body, a great number of generals, senators, &c., were present. Mesdames Albani, Frezzolini, Signor Graziani, the tenor, M. Vieuxtemps, and other musical celebrities, contributed to the entertainment of the guests. It is announced that, during the approaching carnival, M. Pereire is to give a ball at this same hotel, which is to excel in magnificence everything hitherto seen, even in the gilded apartments of the "centre du monde civilisé." Baron Rothschild, of Paris, emulous of the glory of M. Pereire, who has just finished his splendid mansion, is building himself a chateau at Ferrière, at the bottom of a valley where there is neither a prospect in front nor behind. But to show the power of gold, he is making a view, by throwing up an artificial hill on one side and digging a vast lake on the other. In this work, and in the embellishments of the mansion, he has (says the *Indépendance Belge*) already spent eighteen millions of francs, or 720,000*l.* sterling. To be quite original, the Baron has formed the frontage of each of the four sides of his chateau of a different style of architecture—Egyptian, Greek, Gothic, and Elizabethan—which is said to be greatly admired by the numerous friends of the great financier. In one point, however, M. de Rothschild has been unsuccessful, in spite of his determination of building and furnishing "regardless of expense." He had got it into his head to have the ceiling of the great saloon at Ferrière painted by M. Ingres, but in spite of the most lavish offers, and in spite even of the Baron's personal solicitations, the member of the Institut de France has hitherto steadfastly refused the work, for which now M. Héreaux, the "peintre ordinaire de M. Scribe," has been engaged.

BIRTHS.

SMALL.—Jan. 20, at 1, Elm-avenue, Nottingham, the wife of Mr. William Small, of twins, a son and daughter, both living.

LOCKHART.—Jan. 31, at Richmond, Surrey, the wife of W. Lockhart, Esq., (medical missionary to China) of twins, a boy and a girl.

SOPER.—Feb. 3, at Clevedon, Somersetshire, the wife of the Rev. R. G. Soper, of a daughter.

ATKIN.—Feb. 4, Mrs. George Atkin, Book-part, Rock-ferry Birkenhead, of a son.

ASHBY.—Feb. 13, at Sydenham-road, Croydon, the wife of Alexander Ashby, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

WILKS-DAVIES.—Feb. 3, at George-street Chapel, Plymouth, by the Rev. D. John Folkestone, the Rev. Edward Wilks, Baptist minister, Cwastrey, to Elizabeth Anne, second daughter of Mr. William Davies, Mill Bay, Plymouth.

GAST-CARTER.—Feb. 3, at Countess-chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. Thomas Winter, the Rev. Philip Gast, of Appledore, Devon, to Miss Louisa Carter, of Upper Clapton, London.

WILLIAMS-JONES.—Feb. 3, at the Hamilton-square Chapel, Birkenhead, by the Rev. H. E. Thomas, Mr. Thos. Edwin Williams, of Manchester, to Mary, eldest daughter of the late Robert Jones, Esq., of Liverpool.

PRYKE-KEEBLE.—Feb. 3, at Tacket-street Chapel, Ipswich, Mr. Mark Pryke, of Gillingham, to Mary Ann, widow of the late Mr. James Keeble, coal merchant, St. Helen's.

PONTIFEX-WILSON.—Feb. 9, at Craven Chapel, by the Rev. John Graham, Russell, eldest son of Russell Bennett, Esq., of Upper St. Martin's-lane and Sandyway, Gloucestershire, to Julia, second surviving daughter of the late George Wilson, Esq., of Clarence-terrace, Regent's-park.

CHILD-ODDY.—Feb. 9, at Mill-hill Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. T. Hincks, Mr. William Child, to Emma, second daughter of Mr. J. Oddy, cloth finisher.

BALLANCE-HINE.—Feb. 10, at St. James's, Clapham, Henry, son of John Ballance, Esq., of Lower Clapton, to Eliza, only daughter of the Rev. T. C. Hine, of Sydenham.

ELY-QUILTER.—Feb. 10, at St. Luke's, Lower Norwood, by the Rev. J. Lester, Charles, son of the late W. Ely, Esq., of West-end, Hampstead, to Lizzie, daughter of W. Quilter, Esq., of Norwood, Surrey.

FIFIELD-BATES.—Feb. 10, at the Baptist Chapel, Long Buckby, by the Rev. T. M. Thorpe, pastor of the chapel, assisted by the Rev. J. P. Haddy, of Daventry, the Rev. W. G. Fifield, of Blackrun, to Elizabeth, third daughter of Mr. Thomas Bates, of Long Buckby.

CAMPBELL-SCOTT.—Feb. 10, at Langside-road, Glasgow, by the Rev. Dr. Stewart, of Douglas, Mr. Archibald Campbell, of Huddersfield, to Marion, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Scott, Douglas, Lancashire.

ASTON-MAY.—Feb. 13, at the Congregational Chapel, Caledonian-road, Islington, by the Rev. Ebenezer Davies, Mr. James Aston, of Wildernesse-row, Clerkenwell, to Henrietta Eliza Christiana, daughter of the late Mr. Charles John May, of Clerkenwell.

DEATHS.

SHIPMAN.—Feb. 3, at Blackheath-road, Greenwich, Mrs. Elizabeth Shipman, aged ninety-one years.

SMITH.—Feb. 3, Mr. John Smith, of Farley, in the seventy-fourth year of his age. He was for forty-five years a member and thirty-four years a deacon of the Baptist Church, Farley.

MITCHELL.—Feb. 8, Mr. Charles Mitchell, of West Brompton and Red Lion-court, Fleet-street, London, in his fifty-second year.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

The funds have been flat during the week. On Monday the funds closed the same as on Saturday, having scarcely varied a fraction throughout the day. A favourable impression was created by the publica-

tion of the Navy Estimates for the ensuing year, which show an excess of only 961,810*l.* over the previous year. The financial statement presented by Lord Stanley in the House of Commons, on Monday, was considered less unsatisfactory than might have been expected, looking at the enormous expenditure incurred through the rebellion. The circumstance, however, which is regarded with most favour is the small amount of loan now required—7,000,000*l.* Stocks are firm. The investments made by the Government brokers for the Savings' Banks are expected to continue for several weeks longer. The Paris Bourse continues to improve.

The demand for money is slack. There have been transactions in first-class bills at 2½, and even 2 per cent. At the Bank scarcely any business is doing.

The letters of allotment of the Austrian Loan were issued on Monday. Endeavours are of course made to conceal the failure of the loan, but it is generally believed that of the six millions of stock offered not more than a sixth part (or 1,000,000*l.*) has been taken up in this country. It is known that subscription lists were likewise opened at Amsterdam and Berlin, as well as by the corresponding members of the great family of the Rothschilds at Paris, Frankfurt, and Vienna; and the amounts placed in those markets will probably not be permitted to transpire. The loan is quoted at a discount of from ½ to ¾ on the Stock Exchange.

In the Foreign Stock Market business is moderately active, and quotations exhibit symptoms of improvement. A very moderate business is being transacted in the Railway Share Market, but in most instances prices have shown an upward tendency, the aggregate advance being about ½ to ¾ per cent. Joint Stock Bank Shares show little variation. London and County have improved to 25½; and London and Westminster to 47½. Ottoman Bank are 20½ to 20¾; and Union of London, 24½. In the Miscellaneous Market Peninsular and Oriental Steam have declined to 85. Royal Mail Steam to 63 and 63½; and Electric Telegraph to 102½.

The general business of the port of London during the past week has been very inactive. The number of ships reported inward was 146, and of those cleared outward 95, including 11 in ballast. The ships now on the berth loading outward comprise 46 for the Australian colonies, 7 for China, 2 for San Francisco, and 1 for Vancouver's Island.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
Spec. Consols	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Consols for Ac-	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
count	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Spec. Cent. Red.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
New 3 per Cent.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
Annuities	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
India Stock	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Bank Stock	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Esquequer-bis	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Annuities	—	—	—	—	—	—

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—A highly-respectable lady having been afflicted for more than ten years with consumptive symptoms, nervousness, indigestion, and with other internal disorders of a very serious nature, of which she could get no relief, has become restored to health by simple means. She will inform any sufferer of the means by which she became restored, either on personal application, or on receipt of a directed envelope.—Address, Mrs. George Morrison, No. 11, Walpole-street, Chelsea, S.W.

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.—The most eminent medical authorities coincide in extolling this remedy as far more effectual than any in the cure of consumption, coughs, asthma, bronchitis, neuralgia, diphtheria, rheumatism, &c.; "relief instantaneous," perfectly safe in administration, and no injurious after-effects. Sole manufacturer, J. T. Davenport, Pharmacist to H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, 33, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London. May be had of all respectable Chemists. Sold in bottles 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. Sent carriage free on receipt of Stamps or Post Office Order. Medical reports forwarded on application. None genuine without the words, "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne," engraved on the stamp. This is well worth the attention of the afflicted.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—When we consider how uncertain are life and health—and their value is appreciated by all human beings—it is strange, indeed, to observe how often men neglect the means of preserving these blessings at even the most trifling cost. They pay heavily to insure their premises from fire, or their goods from accident on flood and field, but they often put off until it is too late, the expenditure of a few shillings on a box of Holloway's Pills, which they might keep by them as an unfailing safeguard—a charm which will protect the possessor against all diseases. They must certainly do good if used according to instructions given with each box.

A MOST INTERESTING RECOVERY FROM A VAST COMPLICATION OF DISEASES, such as Indigestion (Dyspepsia), Flatulency, Constipation, Nervous, Bilious, and Liver complaints, Cough, Asthma, Consumption, and Debility, without the aid of Medicine, by Du Barry's delicious Revalenta Arabica Food is recorded in the following letter:—Cure 52,422.—"Bridgehouse, Primley, 3rd April, 1854. 33 years diseased lungs, spitting of blood, liver derangement, deafness, ringing in the ears, constipation, debility, shortness of breath and cough, have been removed by your Revalenta Arabica. My lungs, liver, stomach, head and ears are all right, my hearing perfect, and my recovery is a marvel to all my acquaintances.—James Roberts, Woodmerch." [Supported by testimonials from the celebrated Professors of Chemistry, Dr. Andrew Ure, Dr. Shorland, Dr. Harvey, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Gattiker, Dr. Wurzer, Dr. Ingram, Lord Stuart de Decies, Major General Thomas King, and many other respectable persons, whose health has been restored by it, after all other means of cure had failed. Suitably packed with full instructions. In canisters, 12b., 2s. 6d.; 2lb., 4s. 6d.; 5lb., 11s.; 12lb., 22s. The 12lb. canisters are sent carriage free, on receipt of Post-office order. Barry Du Barry and Co., 77, Regent-street, London, and through all Chemists and Grocers in town and country. Important caution against the fearful dangers of spurious imitations:—The Vice-Chancellor Sir William Page Wood granted an Injunction on the 10th March, 1854, against Alfred Hooper Nevill, for imitating "Du Barry's Revalenta Arabica Food."

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th of Vic., cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, Feb. 9, 1859.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT	
Notes issued	£33,243,570
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities	3,459,900
Gold Bullion	18,768,570
Silver Bullion	—

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000
Reserve	8,365,500
Public Deposits	7,329,287
Other Deposits	14,484,936
Seven Day and other Bills	793,613
	£40,526,476

Feb. 10, 1859. £40,526,476 M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, February 11, 1859.

BANKRUPTS.	
TRIGG, W., Whitley, Surrey, timber merchant, February 18, March 17.	
COLLINS, W. P., and COLLINS, H. E., Paternoster-row, map-sellers, February 23, March 25.	
BODY, E., Ramsgate, furniture dealer, February 24, March 28.	
YAPP, E., Leominster, butcher, February 21, March 14.	
HOLLINGSOPE, F., Worcester, draper, February 24, March 17.	
LEAKE, J., Newark-upon-Trent, wine merchant, February 22, March 18.	
DEAN, M. H., Ashbourne, Derbyshire, grocer, February 22, March 15.	
WOOD, H., Long Eaton, Derbyshire, baker, February 22, March 15.	
JENNINGS, W., Speinton, lace dresser, February 22, March 15.	
GROVES, H. J., Newport, Monmouthshire, musician, Feb. 22, March 22.	
JONES, P., Mynyddyllwyn, Monmouthshire, haulier, Feb. 22, March 22.	
WELLS, R., Bristol, and elsewhere, wholesale tea-dealer, Feb. 21, March 22.	
VARCOE, T., Saint Austell, Cornwall, carpenter, Feb. 24, March 23.	
SMITH, J. P. G., Liverpool, baker, February 22, March 16.	
TARLETON, J. C., Rhyll, Flintshire, shipowner, February 22, March 16.	
SCHOFIELD, J., Blue Pits, Rochdale and Keighley, glass manufacturer, February 25, March 18.	

Tuesday, February 15, 1859.

BANKRUPTS.	
TIMES, W., Ketton, Rutlandshire, parchment manufacturer, February 25, March 25.	
GOODMAN, W., Birmingham, leather merchant, February 23, March 18.	
KNOTT, J., Maidstone, draper, March 1 and 29.	
COSTA, J., and DAVIS, C., Minorca, foreign importers, Feb. 28, March 30.	
POWELL, W., Bradford, grocer, March 3 and 25.	
SLIGO, J. W., North-street, Strood, builder, February 23, March 30.	
RATTRAY, T., Bedford-place, Commercial-road East, iron-monger, February 22, March 18.	

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Feb. 14.

We received coastwise last week 2,705 quarters of British wheat, and 2,186 sacks of flour; and by rail 4,330 quarters, and 15,465 sacks. Our foreign supply consisted of wheat, 2,010 quarters from France, 256 quarters from Holland, 115 quarters Belgium, 1,942 quarters Taganrog, 9,400 quarters Egypt. Barley, 590 quarters France, 991 quarters Hamburg, 2,080 quarters Brazil. Oats, 260 quarters from Holland. Flour, 980 sacks and 100 barrels from France—10 sacks Jersey, Holland 10 sacks; via Liverpool 73 barrels. The quantity of samples of wheat offering from the home counties this morning was short, but a good deal affected by the damp weather; little could be sold, though fine dry qualities were not cheaper; the demand for foreign was upon a restricted scale, at last Monday's prices. Norfolk flour was offered 6d per sack lower, with a slow sale. Beans firm, and peas dull. Barley of all descriptions steady sale at last Monday's prices. We had a very short supply of oats, but cannot quote any improvement in prices, as consumers can get sufficient for their immediate wants from Granary. Linseed and cakes steady sale at last week's quotations. Tares in good demand and fully as dear. Cloverseeds firm in price, with a continued good sale.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat		Wheat	
Essex and Kent, Red	42 to 44	Dantsig	50 to 54
Ditto White	48 50	Konigsberg, Red	44 52
Lincoln, Norfolk, and		Pomeranian, Red	46 50
Yorkshire Red	—	Rostock	46 50
Scotch	42 44	Danish and Holstein	42 46
Rye	32 34	East Friesland	42 44
Barley, malting	36 42	Petersburg	39 43
Distilling	26 28	Riga and Archangel	—
Malt (pale)	60 64	Polish Odessa	38 40
Beans, mazagan	36 40	Marianopol	46 48
Ticks	—	Taganrog	—
Harrow	—	Egyptian	30 32
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	40 46
Peas, White	40 42	Barley, Pomeranian	26 27
Grey	40 41	Konigsberg	—
Maple	40 41	Danish	27 28
Boilers	—	East Friesland	22 23
Tares (English new)	70 80	Egyptian	20 21
Foreign	70 85	Odessa	22 23
Oats (English new)	21 24	Beans—	
Flour, town made, per		Horse	36 40
Sack of 280 lbs	38 40	Pigeon	40 42
Linseed, English	—	Egyptian	32 34
Baltic	50 52	Peas, White	38 40
Black Sea	50 52	Oats—	
Hempseed	42 44	Dutch	18 25
Canaryseed	68 70	Jahde	18 24
Cloverseed, per cwt. of		Danish	17 22
112lbs. English	70 80	Danish, Yellow feed	21 24
German	66 90	Swedish	22 24
French	54 68	Petersburg	20 24
American	54 62	Flour, per bar. of 190lbs.	—
Linseed Cakes, 134 lbs to 144		New York	20 25
Rape Cakes, 64 lbs to 70 lbs per ton		Spanish, per sack	—
Rapeseed, 34½ to 38½ per last		Carrawayseed, per cwt.	30 35

BREAD.—The price of wheaten bread, in the metropolis, are from 6d to 7d; household ditto, 4½d to 6d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, Feb. 14.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 2,479 head. There was only a limited supply of foreign stock here to-day, and a good clearance was effected, at full prices. Fresh up from our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts were very moderate for the time of year, and in very middling condition. Although the attendance of butchers was by no means numerous, the beef trade ruled steady, at prices fully equal to Monday last. A few superior Scots produced 5s, but the general top figure for beef was 4s 10d per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received 2,000 Scots, shorthorns, and crosses;

from other parts of England, 500 of various breeds; from Scotland, 400 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 16 oxen. The show of sheep was again rather limited. For all kinds we had a good demand, at, in some instances, an improvement in value of 2d per 8lbs; the current value of the best Downs being 5s 4d per 8lbs. Shorn sheep were selling at 8d per 8lbs beneath those in the wool. The few lambs in the market sold at irregular quotations. Calves were in short supply and fair request, at full prices. We had a dull inquiry for pigs, at late currencies.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.		a. d. s. d.	
Inf. coarse beasts	3 4 to 3 6	Pr. coarse woolled	4 8 to 5 0
Second quality	3 8 4 2	Prime Southdown	5 2 5 4
Prime large oxen	4 4 4 6	Lga. coarse calves	3 8 4 6
Prime Scots, &c.	4 8 4 10	Prime small	4 8 5 4
Coarse inf. sheep	3 8 4 0	Large hogs	3 0 3 6
Second quality	4 2 4 6	Neatm. porkers	3 8 4 2

Lambs 0s 0d to 0s 0d.

Suckling calves, 17s. to 21s. Quarter-oldstore pigs, 18s. to 22s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Feb. 14.

Since our last report, full average supplies of meat have come to hand from Scotland and various parts of England. A full average business is doing generally, and prices are well supported.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.		a. d. s. d.	
Inferior beef	3 0 to 3 4	Small pork	3 8 to 4 2
Middling ditto	3 6 3 8	Inf. mutton	3 2 3 6
Prime large do.	3 10 4 0	Middling ditto	3 8 4 2
Do. small do.	4 2 4 6	Prime ditto	4 4 4 8
Large pork	2 8 3 6	Veal	3 8 4 8

Lamb, 0s 0d to 0s 0d.

PRODUCE MARKET, MINCHING-LANE, Feb. 15.

TEA.—The market continues very firm, and a fair business has been done in the new season's cargo at 2s 2d to 2s 4d per lb. Common congou is quoted 13d per lb.

SUGAR.—Very few inquiries have been made either for home consumption or for exportation. Prices, however, continue steady for most descriptions. In the refined market the trade has operated to a moderate extent, but quotations show little alteration; fair titlers realise 52s to 54s per cwt, and brown lumps 52s 9d per cwt.

COFFEE.—The transactions have been extremely limited, and confined almost exclusively to plantation Ceylon, the better descriptions of which have realised fully late rates.

RICE.—Few sales have been reported; there is still a fair demand for the lower qualities, and late rates are fully maintained.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Feb. 14.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 2,880 firkins butter, and 3,653 bales bacon; and from foreign ports 7,351 casks butter, and 136 bales bacon. The Irish butter market ruled quiet last week, the continuance of damp mild weather affecting the demand; but the shipments from Ireland being trifling, prices generally are unchanged. Best foreign sold at 130s to 134s. In the bacon market there was a good demand, principally for parcels for shipment, and sales were effected at 54s to 56s on board.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Feb. 14.—The supplies of Potatoes received since Monday last have been only moderate, coastwise and by land-carriage. The imports have been 7 bags from Rotterdam, 290 ditto from Calais, 70 sacks from Dunkirk, 190 tons from Rouen, and 50 bags from Hambro'. By private contract the demand rules steady, as follows: York Regents, 85s to 105s; Essex and Kent, 70s to 90s; Lincoln, 80s to 95s; Scotch, 45s to 95s; Foreign, 40s to 55s per ton.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, Feb. 12.—Pineapples and grapes, though scarcer, are still sufficient for the demand. Pears in season consist of No. Plus Meuris, Winter Nelsa, Glout Moroccan, and Jean de Witte. The supply of apples is well kept up. Barcelona nuts fetch 20s per bushel; Brazil, 16s do; Spanish, 14s do; almonds, 24s; walnuts, kiln-dried, 30s do; Spanish hazel nuts have arrived, and are in good order for planting. Chestnuts for the same purpose fetch from 8s to 10s per bushel; finest desert chestnuts range from 20s to 24s per bushel. Kent cobs are scarce; they realise 75s per 100lbs. New oranges fetch 3s 6d to 10s per 100. Among vegetables are some nice cauliflowers. Greens are plentiful, French beans scarce. French salad has made its appearance, as have also some examples of forced rhubarb and sea-kale. Potato sales are heavy, except for best samples; which realise from 100s to 110s per ton, the latter the ruling price. Artichokes fetch from 4s to 6s per dozen. Cucumbers plentiful. Cut flowers chiefly consist of Orchids, Gardenias, Heliotropes, Geraniums, Violets, Mignonette, Heaths, and Roses.

WOOL, Monday, Feb. 14.—Since our last report, only a limited supply of English wool has been on offer in this market; nevertheless, owing to the approaching public sales of colonial, and the unfavourable aspect of politics on the continent, the demand has been wholly confined to retail parcels, on former terms. The new clip of wool is likely to turn out a large one.

TALLOW, Monday, Feb. 14.—Since our last, a fair average business has been transacted in Tallow, at very full prices. Today, F.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 53s 3d, Town Tallow 52s per cwt. net cash. Rough Fat 2s 10d per 5lbs.

OILS, Monday, Feb. 14.—Rape oil is dull at 43s 6d for English, and 42s to 45s 6d for foreign. Linseed moved off steadily, at 30s on the spot. Cocoa-nut is firm, at 40s to 42s; fine Palm, 42s 9d to 43s; Olive, 49s for Gallipoli. Fish oils have commanded rather more attention, at full prices. Spirits of Turpentine, 40s to 41s; rough oil, 11s per cwt.

COALS, Monday, Feb. 14.—Market heavy, at last day's rates. Haswells, 10s 6d; Huttons, 10s 6d; Russell Hutton, 17s 6d; South Hartlepool, 17s 6d; Hartleys, 15s; Wylam, 15s 6d; Hough Hall, 16s 6d; Riddell, 16s 3d; Tanfield, 12s.—Fresh arrivals, 16; left from last week, 10.—Total, 26.

Advertisements.

FOR BEST TEAS and COFFEES
GO TO EDMONDS',
93, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD.

WHY GIVE MORE?—EXCELLENT TEAS,
Black, Green, and Mixed, are now on Sale, for Family
Use, at 2s. 8d. per lb., at NEWSOM and Co.'s Original Tea
Warehouse, 50, Borough. Established A.D. 1745.

WHEN YOU ASK FOR
GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH,
SEE THAT YOU GET IT,
as inferior kinds are often substituted.

VINEGAR—Patronised by Her Majesty's
GOVERNMENT. "Condy's patent concentrated pure
Malt Vinegar."—Families, by using this delicious Vinegar,
insure purity, and effect a saving of Fifty per cent. See report
of Dr. Letheby, City officer of Health, and Dr. Hassell, of the
Lancet Commission, and others. Sold by the Trade in bottles,
labelled and capped. Wholesale, 63, King William-street,
London-bridge, E.C. Six quart samples sent free to any rail-
way station for 3s. 6d.

GALVANIC BELT, without Acids, for the
CURE of Dyspepsia, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Neuralgia,
all its forms, Inactivity of the Liver, or Sluggish Circulation.
From the constant demand the price is reduced. Forwarded
post free. 7s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 15s., and 21s.
Mr. W. P. PIGGOTT is to be consulted daily from Ten a.m.
to Four p.m., at 16, Argyll-street, Regent-street. The Galvanic
Baths for extracting mineral poisons, and the cure of cutaneous
diseases. Post-office Orders payable as above, or at the Galvanic
Belt Depot, 523, New Oxford-street.

THORLEY'S FOOD for CATTLE.—Every person having an interest in domestic or farm animals should obtain a supply of this celebrated and economical Food, which will prove invaluable during the approaching season. For keeping horses in good condition, it is unequalled. Pigs fatten with surprising rapidity upon it, and their flesh increases in flavour and value. Cowkeepers will find great advantage in the increased quantity and improved quality of the milk during its use. All animals are benefited by it. A pamphlet on this interesting subject, accompanied by Testimonials from the principal Nobility, Gentry, and Agriculturists, forwarded on application. In casks containing 445 feeds (measures enclosed), price 50s., carriage paid to any Railway Station in the United Kingdom. Post-office Orders payable to Joseph Thorley, 77, Newgate-street, London.

N.B.—The public are cautioned against being imposed upon by worthless imitations.

GALVANISM—MR. WILLIAM H. HALSE, the Medical Galvanist, of No. 1, Addison-terrace, Kensington, London, solicits invalids to send to him for his Pamphlet on "Medical Galvanism," which he will forward post free on receipt of Two Postage Stamps. The beneficial effects of Galvanism in cases of Paralysis, Loss of Muscular Power in any part, Asthma, Indigestion, and Nervousness, are most extraordinary when applied in a scientific manner, and with an efficient apparatus. Attendance from Ten to Two o'clock. Mr. Halse's Galvanic Machines are Ten Guineas each.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH, USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY,

The LADIES are respectfully informed that this STARCH is EXCLUSIVELY USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY, and HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS says, that although she has tried Whentel, Rice, and other Powder Starches, she has found none of them equal to the GLENFIELD, which is

THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.

Wotherspoon and Co., Glasgow and London.

KEATING'S PALE NEWFOUNDLAND COD LIVER OIL, perfectly pure, nearly tasteless, and free from adulteration of any kind, having been analyzed, reported on, and recommended by Professors TAYLOR and THOMSON, of Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, who, in the words of the late Dr. FERRELL, say, that "The finest oil is that most devoid of colour, odour, and flavour," characters this will be found to possess in a high degree. Half-pintals, 6d.; Pintals 2s. 6d.; Quarts 4s. 6d.; and Five-pint Bottles 10s. 6d., Imperial Measure.

79, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.

CURE OF ASTHMA OF SEVERAL YEARS' STANDING.

Caliscroa, near Stroud, Gloucestershire.

Sir,—Having been troubled with Asthma for several years, I could find no relief from any medicine whatever, until I was induced about two years ago to try a box of your valuable Lozenges, and found such relief from them that I am determined for the future never to be without a box of them in the house, and will do all in my power to recommend them to my friends.

If you consider the above testimonial of any advantage, you are quite at liberty to make what use of it you please.

I am, Sir, your most obliged servant,

Thomas Keating, Esq., W. J. TREGE.
Prepared and sold in Boxes, 1s. 1d., and Tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by Thomas Keating, Chemist, &c., 79, St. Paul's Churchyard, London. Retail by all Druggists.

LAMPOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE forms a most agreeable renovating beverage; its efficacy in sickness, general debility, and eruptive complaints, is supported by the testimonials and recommendation of nearly all our metropolitan physicians and medical gentlemen, and it has been recommended by their letters to Her Majesty's Commissariat, also to the H. E. I. Company, as a specific in fevers and other affections of the blood.

The late Dr. Prout characterised its discovery as "unfolding germs of immense benefit to mankind."

Wm. Stevens, Esq., M.D., D.C.L., states in his work on West India fevers that wherever the saline treatment is adopted, the fatal yellow fever is deprived of its terrors.

The late Dr. Turley states in a letter that in the worst cases of scarlet and typhus fevers he found it, in his experience and family, to act as a specific, no other medicine being required.

John Spurgin, Esq., M.D., &c., Great Cumberland-street, offers his testimony of approbation both of the principle and mode of administering the Pyretic Saline.

Thomas Carr Jackson, Esq., F.R.C.S., Royal Free Hospital
The late Mr. Guthrie, Army Medical Director.
Dr. Septimus Gibbon, of the London Hospital.
Dr. Holland, of the Scutari Hospital.

Further testimonials and directions for its use in disease accompany each bottle. To be obtained of most respectable Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the country, and direct from the maker, H. LAMPOUGH, 113, Holborn London, in bottles at 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., 11s., and 21s. each.

RUPTURES.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT. WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—*Church and State Gazette.*

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PILLS are the very best and safest remedy for the above complaints, also for Constipation, Piles, and Kidney Complaints, Lumbago, Ties, and Nervousness, Heated Stomach, and Furred Tongue.

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12 Table Spoons	1 18 0	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Dessert Forks	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 2 0	2 10 0
12 Dessert Spoons	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 2 0	2 10 0
12 Tea Spoons	0 18 0	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 18 0
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls	0 12 0	0 15 0	0 18 0	1 1 0
2 Sauce Ladles	0 7 0	0 8 0	0 10 0	0 16 0
1 Gravy Spoon	0 8 0	0 11 0	0 13 0	0 16 0
2 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0	0 7 6
1 Mustard Spoon, gilt bowl	0 2 0	0 3 0	0 3 0	0 3 9
1 Pair of Sugar Tongs	0 3 0	0 3 0	0 5 0	0 7 0
1 Pair of Fish Carvers	1 4 0	1 7 0	1 12 0	1 18 0
1 Butter Knife	0 3 0	0 5 0	0 7 0	0 8 0
1 Soup Ladle	0 13 0	0 17 0	1 0 0	1 1 0
1 Sugar Sifter	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 8 0
Total	11 14 0	14 11 0	17 14 0	21 4 0

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EXTRACTS.

1. It has hitherto been usual for Life Assurance Companies to make their first division of profit at the end of five, seven, or ten years. The success of the BRITISH EQUITABLE ASSURANCE COMPANY justifies this step at the end of the third year.
2. 3,196 policy-holders have had Policies granted, assuring 507,000l. The yearly average of new business has thus amounted to 1,665 new policies, assuring 169,020l.
3. The Annual Income of the Company from all sources estimated for the year 1858 at 18,000l.
4. The total payments of deaths has been only 2,813l. 0s. 10d. The sum paid has in some cases rescued families from destitution, and in all afforded most seasonable relief.
5. The mortality experienced is only one-third of that provided for by the rates of the Company's premiums, and has been more than covered by the premiums received on Policies which have terminated.
6. It will be seen by the result of the valuation of the Company's affairs, that after providing for all benefits granted under the Company's Policies, and after reserving an adequate portion of the future premiums to cover future expenses of management, there remains a surplus of 5,191l. 16s. 11d., of which 5,091l. 16s. 11d., arising from participating business, belongs to the mutual Policy-holders, and 100l. arising from the non-participating business belongs to the Shareholders.
7. It is recommended that a reversionary bonus of 1½ per cent. per annum be declared on all Policies for the whole of life dated on or before December 31st, 1855, and on other business entitled to participate in proportion, and the remainder be carried to the next division of profits. Those participating Policies not entitled to participate in this division, and being entitled to participate in the next division of profits, will then take their profits from the date of entry.
8. The growth of the Company's business having necessitated increased accommodation, and the adjoining house having been offered to the Company on eligible terms, it has been judged advisable to extend the Company's Premises by this means, rather than to seek larger Premises elsewhere, and thus relinquish so commanding a situation.
9. The lives assured have been selected with care, and a high rate of longevity may be expected.
10. The Mortgage Securities of the Company are upon house property of adequate value, and the deeds have been examined by the Auditors.
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